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& NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

POWELL AND MARKET
HYDE & BEACH FISHERMANS WHARF
9
"Meet me at the St. Francis"

DK

LONDON, NEW YORK,
MELBOURNE, MUNICH AND DELHI
www.dk.com
Produced by Pardoe Blacker Publishing Limited (UK)
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Reproduced by Colourscan, Singapore
Printed in Malaysia by Vivar Printing Sdn. Bhd.

First American Edition, 1994
11 12 13 14 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Published in the United States by DK Publishing, 375 Hudson Street,
New York, New York 10014

Reprinted with revisions 1997 (twice), 1999, 2000, 2001,
2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011

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Published in Great Britain by Dorling Kindersley Limited.

A CATALOGING IN PUBLICATION RECORD IS AVAILABLE FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

ISSN 1542-1554
ISBN 978-0-75666-974-4

Front cover main image: Lombard Street, the crookedest street in the world

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◁ **Golden Gate Bridge in fog**

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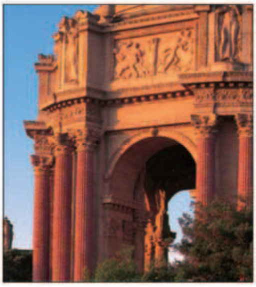

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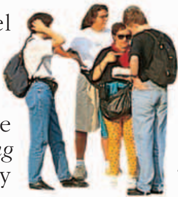
Haas-Lilienthal House, Pacific Heights

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

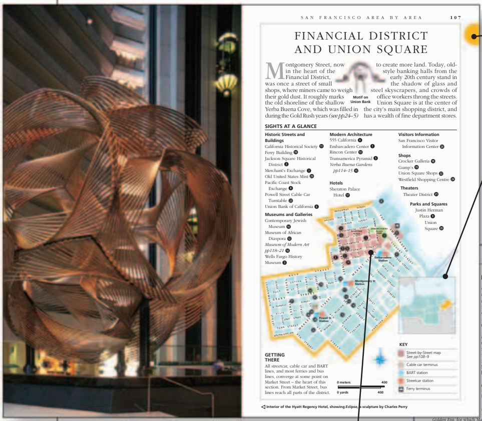


Planning the day's itinerary in San Francisco

This Eyewitness Travel Guide helps you get the most from your stay in San Francisco with the minimum of difficulty. The opening section, *Introducing San Francisco*, locates the city geographically, sets modern San Francisco in its historical context, and describes events through the entire year. *San Francisco at a Glance* is an overview of the city's main attractions. Section two, *San Francisco Area by Area*, covers the important city sights, with photographs, maps and illustrations. The *Northern California* section features recommended places of interest in the region plus two suggested excursions. Tips for restaurants, shopping, hotels, entertainment, sports, and children's activities are found in the section on *Travelers' Needs*. The final section, *Survival Guide,* contains practical advice on everything from personal security to using public transportation.

FINDING YOUR WAY AROUND THE SIGHTSEEING SECTION

Each of the eight sightseeing areas in the city is color-coded for easy reference. Every chapter opens with an introduction to the part of San Francisco it covers, describing its history and character, followed by a Street-by-Street map illustrating the heart of the area. Finding your way around each chapter is made simple by the numbering system used throughout. The most important sights are covered in detail on two or more full pages.



SAN FRANCISCO AREA BY AREA 107

FINANCIAL DISTRICT AND UNION SQUARE

Montgomery Street, now in the heart of the Financial District, was once a street of small shops, where miners came to weigh their gold dust. It roughly marks the old shoreline of the shallow Yerba Buena Cove, which was filled in during the Gold Rush years *(see pp24–5)* to create more land. Today, old-style banking halls from the early 20th century stand in the shadow of glass and steel skyscrapers, and crowds of office workers throng the streets. Union Square is at the center of the city's main shopping district, and has a wealth of fine department stores.

Motif on Union Bank

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Historic Streets and Buildings
California Historical Society ⑪
Ferry Building ⑩
Jackson Square Historical District ②
Merchant's Exchange ⑦
Old United States Mint ㉕
Pacific Coast Stock Exchange ⑧
Powell Street Cable Car Turntable ㉓
Union Bank of California ⑥

Museums and Galleries
Contemporary Jewish Museum ⑭
Museum of African Diaspora ⑫
Museum of Modern Art pp118–21 ⑯
Wells Fargo History Museum ③

Modern Architecture
555 California ④
Embarcadero Center ①
Rincon Center ⑬
Transamerica Pyramid ⑤
Yerba Buena Gardens pp114–15 ⑮

Hotels
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Visitors Information
San Francisco Visitor Information Center ㉖

Shops
Crocker Galleria ⑱
Gump's ⑲
Union Square Shops ㉒
Westfield Shopping Centre ㉔

Theaters
Theater District ㉑

Parks and Squares
Justin Herman Plaza ⑨
Union Square ⑳

GETTING THERE

All streetcar, cable car and BART lines, and most ferries and bus lines, converge at some point on Market Street – the heart of this section. From Market Street, bus lines reach all parts of the district.

0 meters 400
0 yards 400

KEY

▨	Street-by-Street map *See pp108–9*
▨	Cable car terminus
▨	BART station
▨	Streetcar station
▨	Ferry terminus

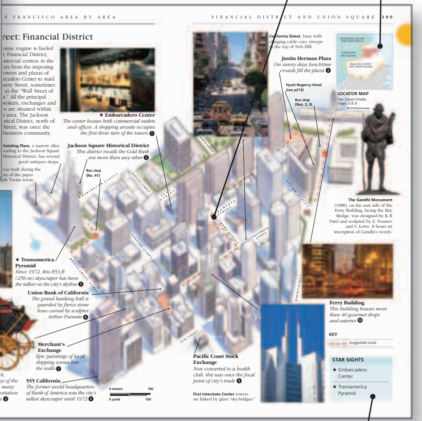
◁ Interior of the Hyatt Regency Hotel, showing *Eclipse*, a sculpture by Charles Perry

Each area has color-coded thumb tabs.

Locator map

A locator map shows where you are in relation to other areas in the city center.

A suggested route takes in the most interesting and attractive streets in the area.



N FRANCISCO AREA BY AREA

reet: Financial District

omic engine is fueled
e Financial District,
mercial centers in the
nes from the imposing
owers and plazas of
rcadero Center to staid
nery Street, sometimes
as the "Wall Street of
t." All the principal
brokers, exchanges and
s are situated within
t area. The Jackson
orical District, north of
Street, was once the
business community.

Hotaling Place, a narrow alley leading to the Jackson Square Historical District, has several good antiques shops.

was built during the
ne of the paper
Golden Era, for which Mark Twain wrote.

★ **Embarcadero Center**
The center houses both commercial outlets and offices. A shopping arcade occupies the first three tiers of the towers ①

Jackson Square Historical District
This district recalls the Gold Rush era more than any other ②

Bus stop (No. 41)

★ **Transamerica Pyramid**
Since 1972, this 853-ft (256-m) skyscraper has been the tallest on the city's skyline ⑤

Union Bank of California
The grand banking hall is guarded by fierce stone lions carved by sculptor Arthur Putnam ⑥

Merchant's Exchange
Epic paintings of local shipping scenes line the walls ⑦

Wells Fargo History Museum
An original stagecoach, evoking the wilder days of the old West, is one of the many exhibits in this transportation and banking museum ③

555 California
The former world headquarters of Bank of America was the city's tallest skyscraper until 1972 ④

0 meters 100
0 yards 100

FINANCIAL DISTRICT AND UNION SQUARE 109

California Street, busy with clanging cable cars, sweeps to the top of Nob Hill.

Justin Herman Plaza
On sunny days lunchtime crowds fill the plaza ⑨

Hyatt Regency Hotel *(see p215)*

Bus stop (Nos. 2, 9)

LOCATOR MAP
See Street Finder, maps 5 & 6

The Gandhi Monument (1988), on the east side of the Ferry Building, facing the Bay Bridge, was designed by K B Patel and sculpted by Z. Pounov and S. Lowe. It bears an inscription of Gandhi's words.

Ferry Building
This building houses more than 40 gourmet shops and eateries ⑩

Pacific Coast Stock Exchange
Now converted to a health club, this was once the focal point of city's trade ⑧

First Interstate Center towers are linked by glass "sky-bridges."

KEY

▬ ▬	Suggested route

STAR SIGHTS

★ Embarcadero Center

★ Transamerica Pyramid

1 Introduction to the area

For easy reference, the sights in each area are numbered and plotted on an area map. To help the visitor, this map also shows BART stations, cable car turntables, and parking areas. Key sights are listed by category: Churches and Temples; Museums and Galleries; Historic Streets and Buildings; Shopping Streets; and Parks and Gardens.

The area shaded pink is shown in greater detail on the Street-by-Street map on the following pages.

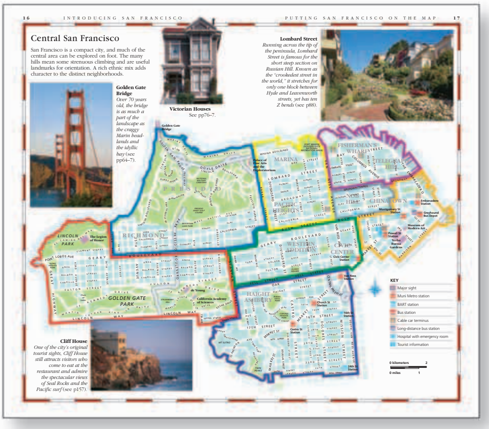
2 Street-by-Street map

This gives a bird's-eye view of the most important parts of each sightseeing area. The numbering of the sights ties in with the area map and the fuller descriptions on the pages that follow.

The list of star sights recommends the places that no visitor should miss.

SAN FRANCISCO AREA MAP

The colored areas shown on this map *(see inside front cover)* are the eight main sightseeing areas – each covered by a full chapter in *San Francisco Area by Area (pp52–181)*. They are highlighted on other maps throughout the book. In *San Francisco at a Glance (pp34–47)*, for example, they help locate the top sights. The area map is also used to show some of the top shopping areas *(pp246–7)* and entertainment venues *(pp260–61)*.



Façades of important buildings are often shown to help you recognize them quickly.

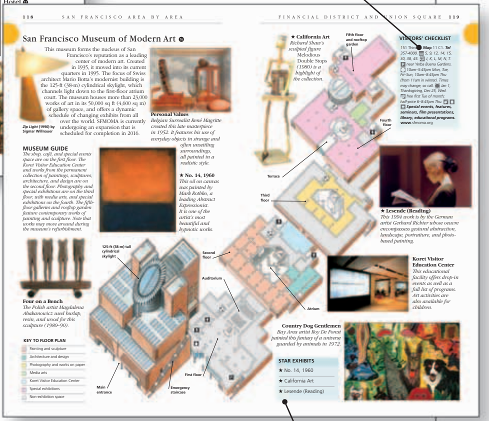
Practical information lists all the information you need to visit every sight, including a map reference to the *Street Finder (pp302–13)*.

Numbers refer to each sight's position on the area map and its place in the chapter.

The visitors' checklist provides all the practical information needed to plan your visit.

3 Detailed information on each sight

All the important sights in San Francisco are described individually. They are listed in order, following the numbering on the area map. Practical information on opening hours, telephone numbers, admission charges and facilities available is given for each sight. The key to the symbols used can be found on the back flap.



4 San Francisco's major sights

Museums and galleries have color-coded floor plans to help you find important exhibits; and historic buildings are dissected to reveal their interiors.

Stars indicate the features no visitor should miss.

INTRODUCING SAN FRANCISCO

FOUR GREAT DAYS IN SAN FRANCISCO 10–11
PUTTING SAN FRANCISCO ON THE MAP 12–17
SAN FRANCISCO'S EARTHQUAKES 18–19
THE HISTORY OF SAN FRANCISCO 20–33
SAN FRANCISCO AT A GLANCE 34–47
SAN FRANCISCO THROUGH THE YEAR 48–51

FOUR GREAT DAYS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Set on steep, wooded hills and almost surrounded by a vast bay, this jewel of a city is, above all, photogenic. Equip yourself with a camera, a map and good walking shoes, and set off to discover its historic sights, cultural treasures, and vibrant neighborhoods. Follow, or pick and choose from these self-guided tours to see the city from four different points of view. Important sights have page references so you can check for more details. The price guides include cost of travel, food and admission charges.

Rhino sculpture – Asian Art Museum

Rodin's *Thinker* at the Legion of Honor

ART, OLD AND NEW

- **See masterpieces at the Legion of Honor**
- **Contemporary art at SFMOMA**
- **Treasures and tea at the Asian Art Museum**
- **Shopping in Hayes Valley**

TWO ADULTS allow at least $122

Morning

Start the day with 4,000 years of ancient and European art at the **Legion of Honor** in Lincoln Park *(see pp156–7)*. From the wooded setting, enjoy the bay views, then take the Muni streetcar to the Latino **Mission District** *(see p131)* to see flamboyant outdoor murals and browse avant-garde galleries and shops. For a quick lunch, munch on *tacos* at **La Taqueria** *(see p235)*.

Afternoon

Take a Muni to Mario Botta-designed, modernist **SFMOMA** *(see pp118–21)* to commune with Warhol, Picasso, and more modern masters. Walk to Civic Center Plaza and the **Asian Art Museum** *(see p126)*, one of the largest museums in the world devoted to Asian art. Relax over tea in its café. Cross the plaza to the Beaux Arts-style, gilt rotunda of the **City Hall** *(see p127)*. Head to **Hayes Valley** *(see p128)* admiring as you walk by, the glass-walled **Davies Symphony Hall** *(see p126)* and the **War Memorial Opera House** *(see p127)*. Enjoy shopping in upscale fashion boutiques and bookshops around Hayes Valley and end the day with an aperitif at the **Absinthe Brasserie and Bar** *(see p235)*.

JUST FOR KIDS

- **Playtime at Yerba Buena Gardens**
- **A picnic lunch**
- **Fun at Fisherman's Wharf**
- **Old ships at Hyde Street Pier**

FAMILY OF 4 allow at least $111

Morning

Start with pancakes and jukebox tunes at **Mel's Drive-In** *(see p243)*. Walk a half block to **Yerba Buena Gardens** *(see pp114–15)* and run up the ramps to the space-age Rooftop playground and 360-degree city views. Watch skaters in the ice skating rink or toss a few balls in the bowling center. Drop teenagers off at Zeum for performing arts activities, while little ones can spin on the 1906 Charles Looff carousel. Grab a take-out at one of the outdoor cafés and relax in the gardens.

Afternoon

Walk to the **Embarcadero Center** *(see p110)* and along the waterfront, or take a streetcar to **Fisherman's Wharf** *(see pp79–81)*. At Pier 45, feed quarters into the 200 antique arcade games at Musée Méchanique. Watch street performers at **PIER 39** *(see p82)*, a sprawling seaside complex of shops, eateries, and entertainments. There's a Venetian carousel, sharks in Underwater World and video games at Riptide Arcade; not forgetting the sea lions on K Dock. End up at Hyde Street Pier – board a schooner then pop into the **Maritime Historical Park** *(see p83)*.

Fun for kids – bungee-jumping at Fisherman's Wharf

◁ **View of San Francisco from the Bay**

Houses overlooking Ocean Beach, a magnificent sweep of sand with fine views

A DAY OUTDOORS

- **Sea views at Ocean Beach**
- **Golden Gate Park**
- **Walk Golden Gate Bridge**
- **Chocolate galore**
- **Cable car ride to Nob Hill**

TWO ADULTS allow at least $100

Morning

Start with breakfast at the Beach Chalet (1000 Great Highway), **Ocean Beach** *(see p153)*. View the Depression-era murals, then set off into **Golden Gate Park** *(see pp144–5)*, past gardens, lakes, meadows, and playing fields to the **Conservatory of Flowers** *(see p152)*, a restored Victorian glass-house filled with exotic flora. Stroll in the **Japanese Tea Garden** *(see p147)*, rent a bike or a row boat, or visit the Botanical Garden **Strybing Arboretum** *(see p152)*. Just outside the park, have a fresh sushi lunch at Japanese restaurant **Ebisu** *(see p237)*.

Afternoon

Take Muni to the **Golden Gate Bridge** *(see pp64–7)* for a windy walk across and back. Walk under the bridge to pre-Civil War-era **Fort Point** *(see p62)* and follow the bayfront trail to **Crissy Field** *(see p62)*, to watch boats and windsurfers. Have a hot drink here at the Warming Hut Café. The young at heart will enjoy an hour or two at the science and technology playhouse (Exploratorium) in the **Palace of Fine Arts** *(see pp60–61)*. Walk to **Ghirardelli Square** *(see p83)*, where you'll find shops, eateries, an old-fashioned soda fountain, and a chocolate factory. At the cable car turnaround, hop onto a cable car and ride to the top of **Nob Hill** *(see p101)*. After a wander here, amble down to the bustling streets of **Chinatown** *(see pp94–100)*.

ALONG THE WATERFRONT

- **Home of the Giants**
- **Gourmet treats**
- **A walk in Levi's Plaza Park**
- **Sail around the bay or pay a visit to Alcatraz**

TWO ADULTS allow at least $102

Morning

Start your expedition with a coffee at **Caffè Roma** *(see p242)*, then head to **AT&T Park** *(see p272)*, home of the San Francisco Giants. Stroll around the perimeter of the ball park for fabulous views. Proceed to the tall **Ferry Building** *(see p112)*, where in the glass-enclosed marketplace you can buy artisan cheeses, rare teas, pastries, and locally grown produce. Across the street, **Embarcadero Center** *(see p110)* is a six-block, high-rise complex of shops and restaurants topped by tree-lined, sky-high terraces. From here, walk out onto the waterfront to hobnob with fishermen, perch on a bench, watch passing ships and snap the **Transamerica Pyramid** *(see p111)* on the skyline. Walk to **Levi's Plaza** *(see p93)*, a grassy area with a backdrop of vintage houses on Telegraph Hill, topped by **Coit Tower** *(see p93)*. For lunch, try a burger or ribs with a sea view in 1930s-style, chrome and neon **Fog City Diner** *(see p230)*.

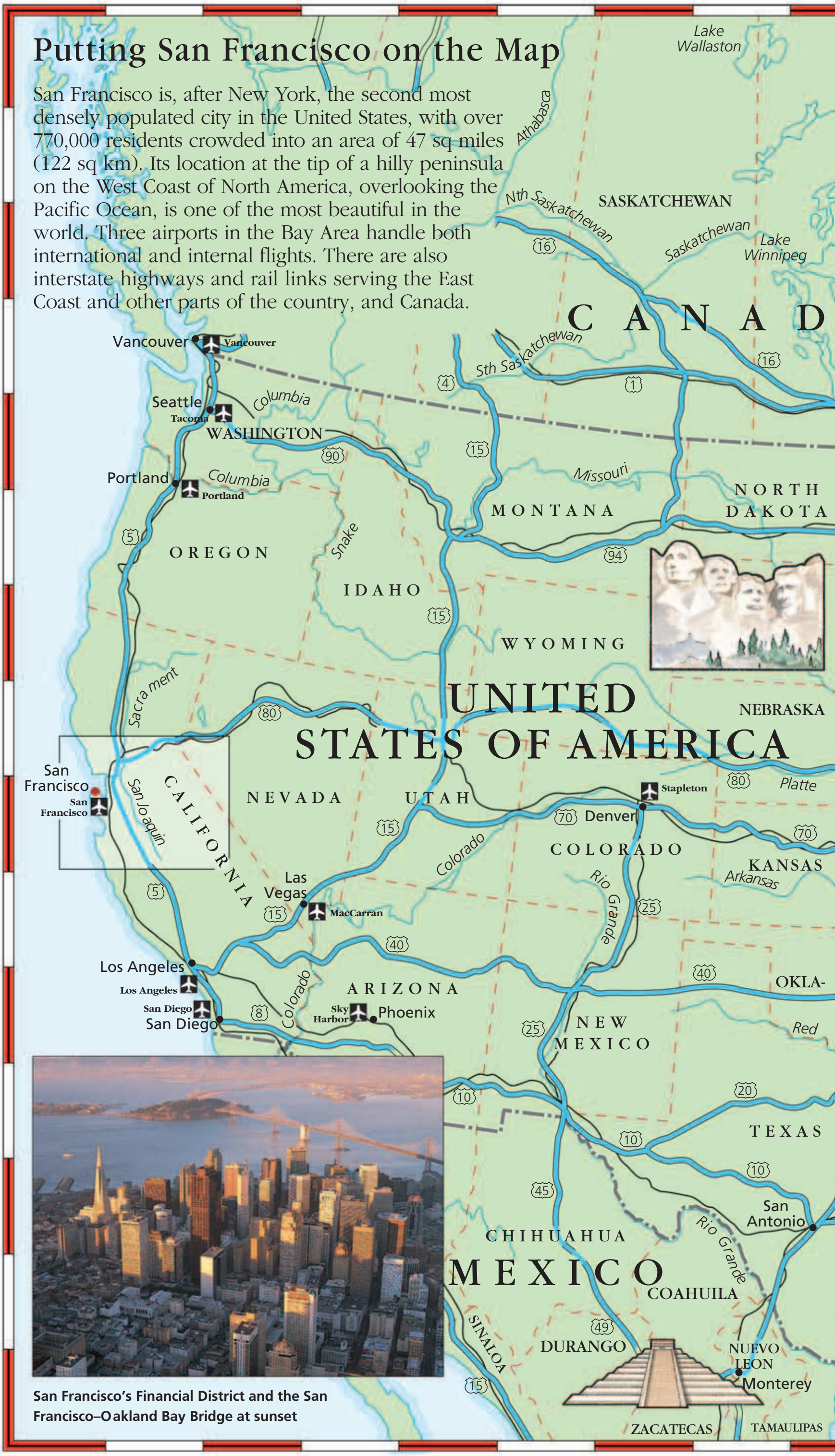
Afternoon

Jump onto a vintage streetcar, or walk to Pier 41 at **Fisherman's Wharf** *(see pp80–81)* and take an hour-long Blue and Gold Fleet sightseeing trip around the bay and under the bridge. You can also cruise to the notorious prison island **Alcatraz** *(see pp84–7)* for a guided tour. Back at the wharf, look into the **Wax Museum** *(see p82)*. Finally, amble to **Fort Mason** *(see pp74–5)* to watch the sun set over the harbor.

Fog City Diner, a 1930s-style restaurant

Putting San Francisco on the Map

San Francisco is, after New York, the second most densely populated city in the United States, with over 770,000 residents crowded into an area of 47 sq miles (122 sq km). Its location at the tip of a hilly peninsula on the West Coast of North America, overlooking the Pacific Ocean, is one of the most beautiful in the world. Three airports in the Bay Area handle both international and internal flights. There are also interstate highways and rail links serving the East Coast and other parts of the country, and Canada.


Lake Wallaston
Athabasca
Nth Saskatchewan
SASKATCHEWAN
Saskatchewan
Lake Winnipeg
16
C A N A D
Sth Saskatchewan
Vancouver
Vancouver
4
1
16
Seattle
Tacoma
Columbia
WASHINGTON
90
15
Missouri
Portland
Columbia
Portland
MONTANA
NORTH DAKOTA
5
OREGON
Snake
94
IDAHO
15
WYOMING
Sacra ment
80
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NEBRASKA
San Francisco
San Francisco
San Joaquin
CALIFORNIA
NEVADA
UTAH
Stapleton
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Platte
15
70
Denver
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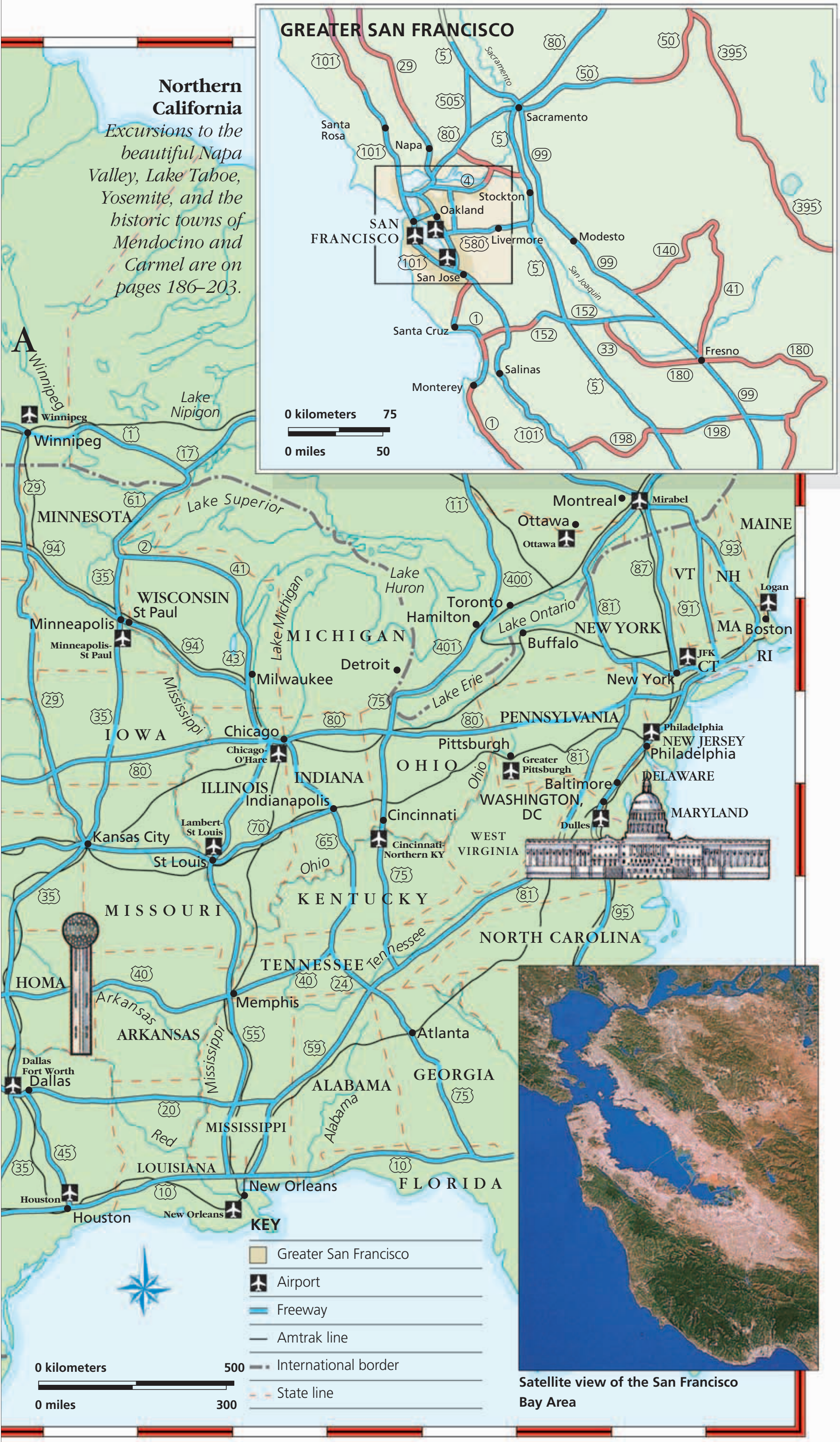
Colorado
COLORADO
Rio Grande
KANSAS
Arkansas
5
Las Vegas
15
MacCarran
25
40
Los Angeles
Los Angeles
40
OKLA-
ARIZONA
San Diego
San Diego
8
Colorado
Sky Harbor
Phoenix
25
NEW MEXICO
Red
10
20
10
TEXAS
10
45
San Antonio
Rio Grande
CHIHUAHUA
MEXICO
COAHUILA
SINALOA
49
DURANGO
NUEVO LEON
Monterey
15
ZACATECAS
TAMAULIPAS

San Francisco's Financial District and the San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge at sunset

Northern California

Excursions to the beautiful Napa Valley, Lake Tahoe, Yosemite, and the historic towns of Mendocino and Carmel are on pages 186–203.


GREATER SAN FRANCISCO
Santa Rosa
Napa
Sacramento
Stockton
Oakland
SAN FRANCISCO
Livermore
Modesto
San Jose
Santa Cruz
Salinas
Monterey
Fresno
Sacramento
San Joaquin
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29
5
80
50
395
505
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580
140
41
1
152
33
180
198
0 kilometers 75
0 miles 50
A
Winnipeg
Winnipeg
Lake Nipigon
Lake Superior
MINNESOTA
WISCONSIN
St Paul
Minneapolis
Minneapolis-St Paul
Mississippi
Lake Michigan
MICHIGAN
Lake Huron
Toronto
Hamilton
Lake Ontario
Buffalo
Detroit
Milwaukee
Chicago
Chicago-O'Hare
IOWA
ILLINOIS
INDIANA
Indianapolis
OHIO
Ohio
Pittsburgh
Greater Pittsburgh
Lake Erie
PENNSYLVANIA
Montreal
Mirabel
Ottawa
Ottawa
MAINE
VT
NH
Logan
MA
Boston
NEW YORK
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Philadelphia
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DELAWARE
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Dulles
MARYLAND
WEST VIRGINIA
Cincinnati
Cincinnati-Northern KY
Kansas City
Lambert-St Louis
St Louis
MISSOURI
KENTUCKY
Ohio
TENNESSEE
Tennessee
NORTH CAROLINA
HOMA
Arkansas
ARKANSAS
Memphis
Mississippi
Atlanta
GEORGIA
ALABAMA
Alabama
Dallas Fort Worth
Dallas
Red
MISSISSIPPI
LOUISIANA
New Orleans
New Orleans
Houston
Houston
FLORIDA
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0 kilometers 500
0 miles 300

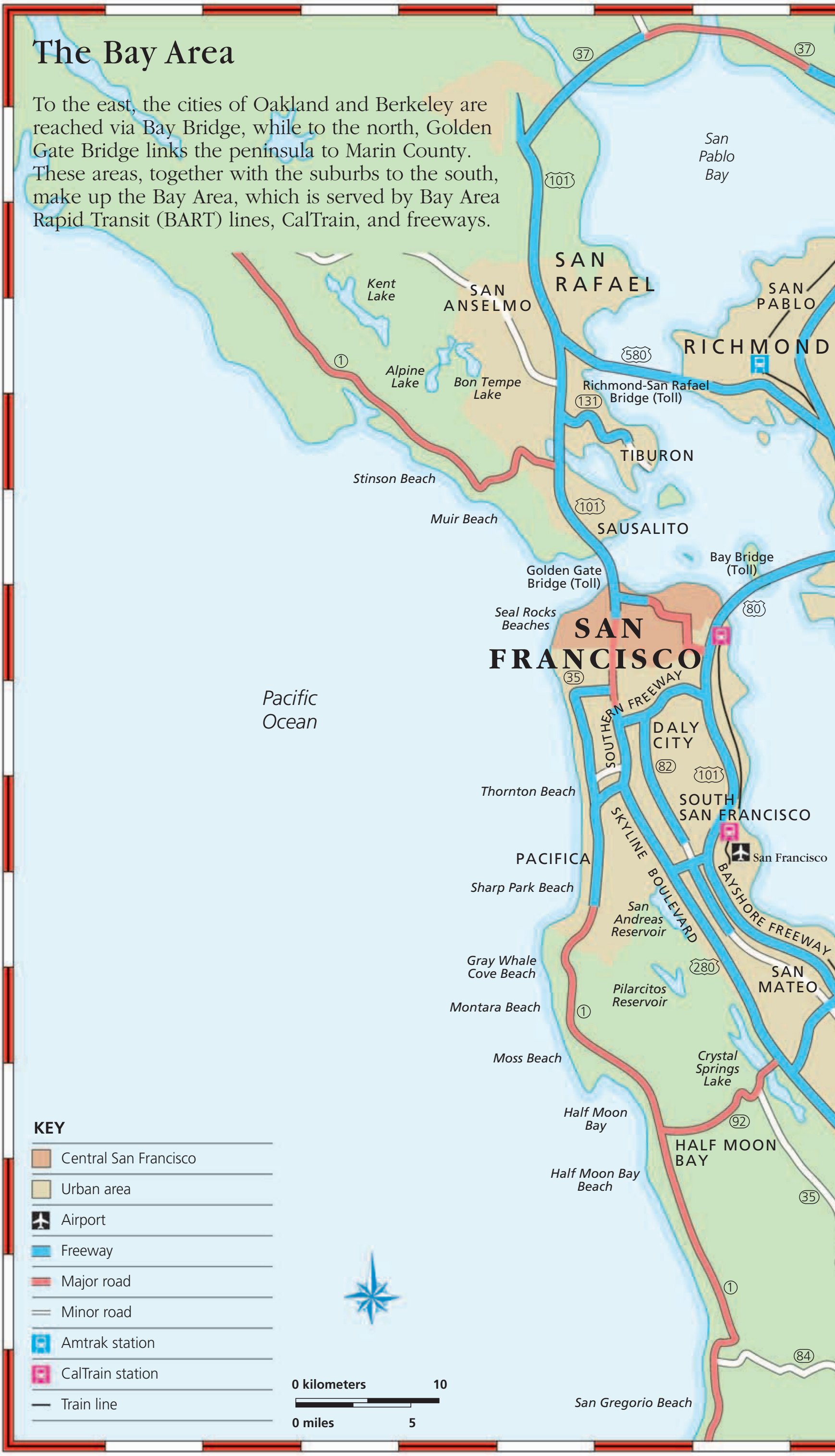
KEY

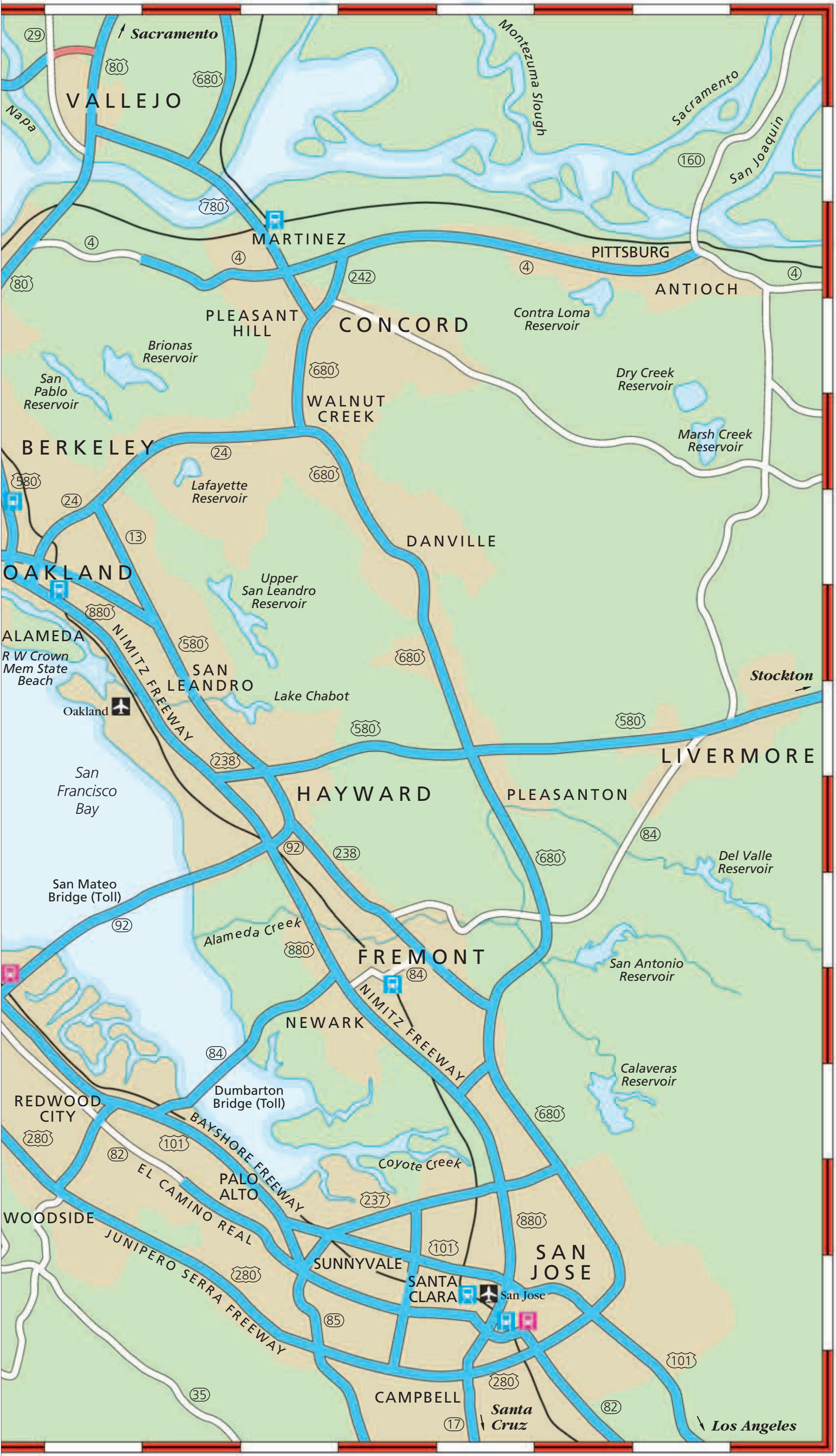
- Greater San Francisco
- Airport
- Freeway
- Amtrak line
- International border
- State line

Satellite view of the San Francisco Bay Area

The Bay Area

To the east, the cities of Oakland and Berkeley are reached via Bay Bridge, while to the north, Golden Gate Bridge links the peninsula to Marin County. These areas, together with the suburbs to the south, make up the Bay Area, which is served by Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) lines, CalTrain, and freeways.


37
37
San Pablo Bay
101
SAN RAFAEL
Kent Lake
SAN ANSELMO
SAN PABLO
RICHMOND
580
1
Alpine Lake
Bon Tempe Lake
Richmond-San Rafael Bridge (Toll)
131
TIBURON
Stinson Beach
101
Muir Beach
SAUSALITO
Bay Bridge (Toll)
Golden Gate Bridge (Toll)
80
Seal Rocks Beaches
SAN FRANCISCO
35
SOUTHERN FREEWAY
DALY CITY
Pacific Ocean
82
101
Thornton Beach
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
SKYLINE BOULEVARD
San Francisco
PACIFICA
BAYSHORE FREEWAY
Sharp Park Beach
San Andreas Reservoir
Gray Whale Cove Beach
280
SAN MATEO
Pilarcitos Reservoir
Montara Beach
1
Moss Beach
Crystal Springs Lake
Half Moon Bay
92
HALF MOON BAY
Half Moon Bay Beach
35
1
84
San Gregorio Beach
KEY
Central San Francisco
Urban area
Airport
Freeway
Major road
Minor road
Amtrak station
CalTrain station
Train line
0 kilometers 10
0 miles 5

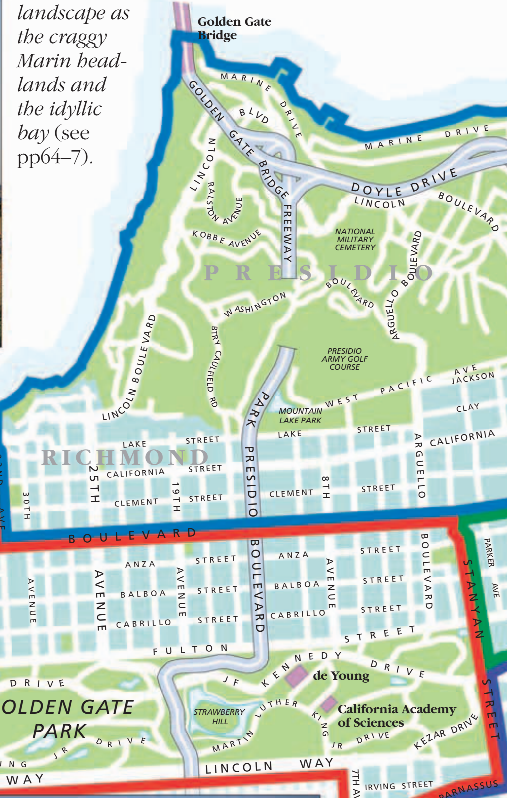

29
Sacramento
80
680
VALLEJO
Napa
Montezuma Slough
Sacramento
San Joaquin
160
780
MARTINEZ
4
4
242
PITTSBURG
4
4
80
ANTIOCH
PLEASANT HILL
CONCORD
Contra Loma Reservoir
Brionas Reservoir
San Pablo Reservoir
680
WALNUT CREEK
Dry Creek Reservoir
Marsh Creek Reservoir
BERKELEY
24
580
Lafayette Reservoir
680
24
13
DANVILLE
OAKLAND
Upper San Leandro Reservoir
880
ALAMEDA
NIMITZ FREEWAY
580
R W Crown Mem State Beach
SAN LEANDRO
680
Oakland
Lake Chabot
Stockton
580
580
238
LIVERMORE
San Francisco Bay
HAYWARD
PLEASANTON
84
92
238
680
Del Valle Reservoir
San Mateo Bridge (Toll)
92
Alameda Creek
880
FREMONT
84
San Antonio Reservoir
NIMITZ FREEWAY
NEWARK
84
Calaveras Reservoir
Dumbarton Bridge (Toll)
REDWOOD CITY
680
280
101
82
BAYSHORE FREEWAY
EL CAMINO REAL
PALO ALTO
Coyote Creek
237
880
WOODSIDE
101
JUNIPERO SERRA FREEWAY
SAN JOSE
SUNNYVALE
280
SANTA CLARA
San Jose
85
101
280
35
CAMPBELL
Santa Cruz
82
17
Los Angeles

Central San Francisco

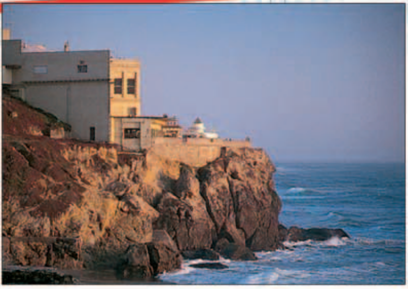
San Francisco is a compact city, and much of the central area can be explored on foot. The many hills mean some strenuous climbing and are useful landmarks for orientation. A rich ethnic mix adds character to the distinct neighborhoods.

Victorian Houses
See pp76–7.

Golden Gate Bridge
Over 70 years old, the bridge is as much a part of the landscape as the craggy Marin headlands and the idyllic bay (see pp64–7).



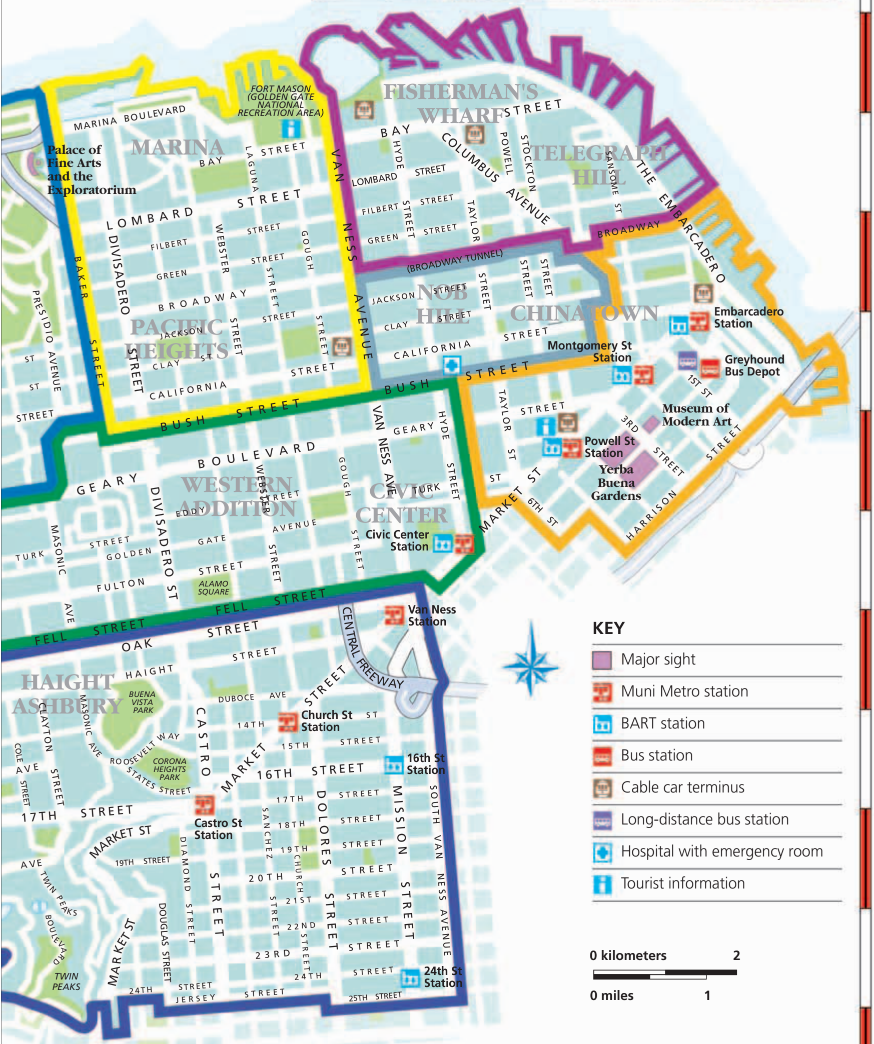
Golden Gate Bridge
MARINE DRIVE
GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE FREEWAY
BLVD
LINCOLN
RALSTON AVENUE
KOBBE AVENUE
MARINE DRIVE
DOYLE DRIVE
LINCOLN BOULEVARD
NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERY
PRESIDIO
WASHINGTON
BOULEVARD
ARGUELLO BOULEVARD
LINCOLN BOULEVARD
BTRY CAULFIELD RD
PARK PRESIDIO BOULEVARD
PRESIDIO ARMY GOLF COURSE
WEST PACIFIC AVE
JACKSON
CLAY
MOUNTAIN LAKE PARK
LAKE
STREET
CALIFORNIA
ARGUELLO
LINCOLN PARK
EL CAMINO DEL MAR
The Legion of Honor
32ND AVE
RICHMOND
LAKE STREET
CALIFORNIA STREET
CLEMENT STREET
25TH
30TH
19TH
8TH
CLEMENT STREET
BOULEVARD
POINT LOBOS AVE
SUTRO HEIGHTS PARK
GEARY STREET
ANZA
BALBOA
CABRILLO
FULTON
43RD AVENUE
34TH AVENUE
AVENUE
STREET
BOULEVARD
STANYAN STREET
PARKER AVE
GREAT HIGHWAY
Chain of Lakes
JF KENNEDY DRIVE
GOLDEN GATE PARK
de Young
California Academy of Sciences
STRAWBERRY HILL
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DRIVE
KEZAR DRIVE
LINCOLN WAY
7TH AVE
IRVING STREET
PARNASSUS
UPPER
SERVICE ROAD
MT SUTRO
CLARENDON



Cliff House
One of the city's original tourist sights, Cliff House still attracts visitors who come to eat at the restaurant and admire the spectacular views of Seal Rocks and the Pacific surf (see p157).

Lombard Street

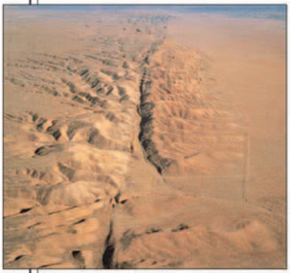
Running across the tip of the peninsula, Lombard Street is famous for the short steep section on Russian Hill. Known as the "crookedest street in the world," it stretches for only one block between Hyde and Leavenworth streets, yet has ten Z bends (see p88).


FORT MASON (GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA)
MARINA
MARINA BOULEVARD
Palace of Fine Arts and the Exploratorium
FISHERMAN'S WHARF
TELEGRAPH HILL
THE EMBARCADERO
BROADWAY
(BROADWAY TUNNEL)
NOB HILL
CHINATOWN
PACIFIC HEIGHTS
PRESIDIO AVENUE
LOMBARD STREET
VAN NESS AVENUE
COLUMBUS AVENUE
CALIFORNIA STREET
BUSH STREET
Embarcadero Station
Montgomery St Station
Greyhound Bus Depot
Museum of Modern Art
Powell St Station
Yerba Buena Gardens
GEARY BOULEVARD
WESTERN ADDITION
CIVIC CENTER
Civic Center Station
MARKET ST
HARRISON
ALAMO SQUARE
FELL STREET
OAK STREET
Van Ness Station
CENTRAL FREEWAY
HAIGHT ASHBURY
BUENA VISTA PARK
CORONA HEIGHTS PARK
Church St Station
16th St Station
Castro St Station
TWIN PEAKS
24th St Station
MISSION STREET
DOLORES STREET
CASTRO STREET
KEY
Major sight
Muni Metro station
BART station
Bus station
Cable car terminus
Long-distance bus station
Hospital with emergency room
Tourist information
0 kilometers 2
0 miles 1

San Francisco's Earthquakes

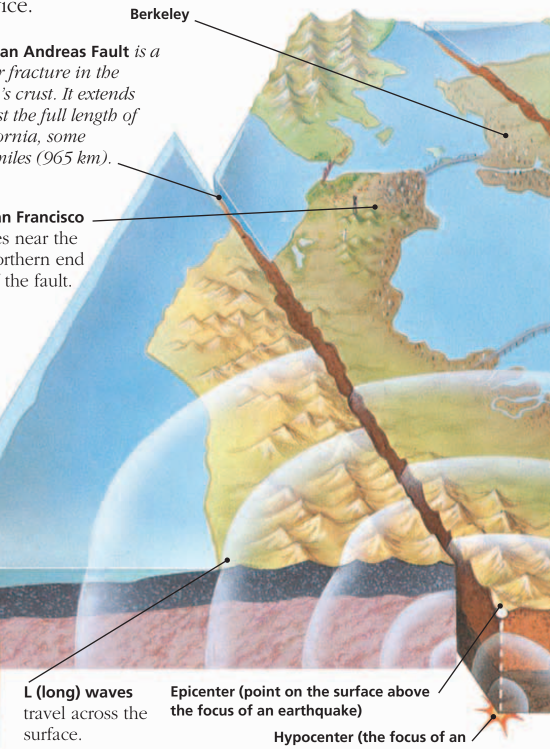
San Francisco lies on the San Andreas Fault and is under constant threat of earthquakes. The Loma Prieta earthquake of October 17, 1989, named after the hill close to its epicenter in the Santa Cruz Mountains, was the worst to hit the area since 1906 *(see pp28–9)*. Many buildings are now being strengthened to withstand tremors, and shelters like the one at the Moscone Center *(see pp114–15)* are stocked as emergency relief sites. In addition, most hotels have their own evacuation procedures, and the local telephone directory has four pages of advice.

The 1989 earthquake *measured 7.1 on the Richter scale. It caused some of the houses that were built on landfill in the Marina District to shift off their foundations.*



PACIFIC PLATE MEETS NORTH AMERICAN PLATE

The San Andreas Fault is the result of friction where two major plates of the Earth's crust meet – the eastern Pacific and the North American plates.

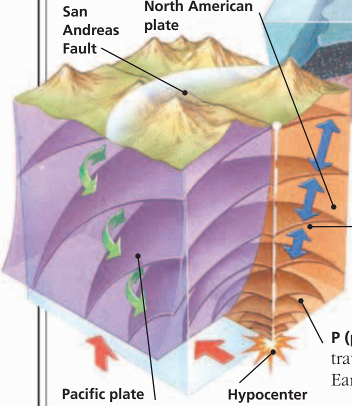


Berkeley
Epicenter (point on the surface above the focus of an earthquake)
Hypocenter (the focus of an earthquake)

The San Andreas Fault *is a major fracture in the Earth's crust. It extends almost the full length of California, some 600 miles (965 km).*

San Francisco lies near the northern end of the fault.

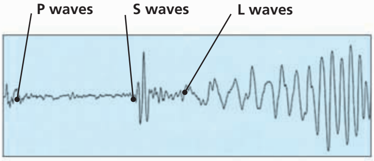
L (long) waves travel across the surface.



S (secondary) waves travel through solid parts of the crust.

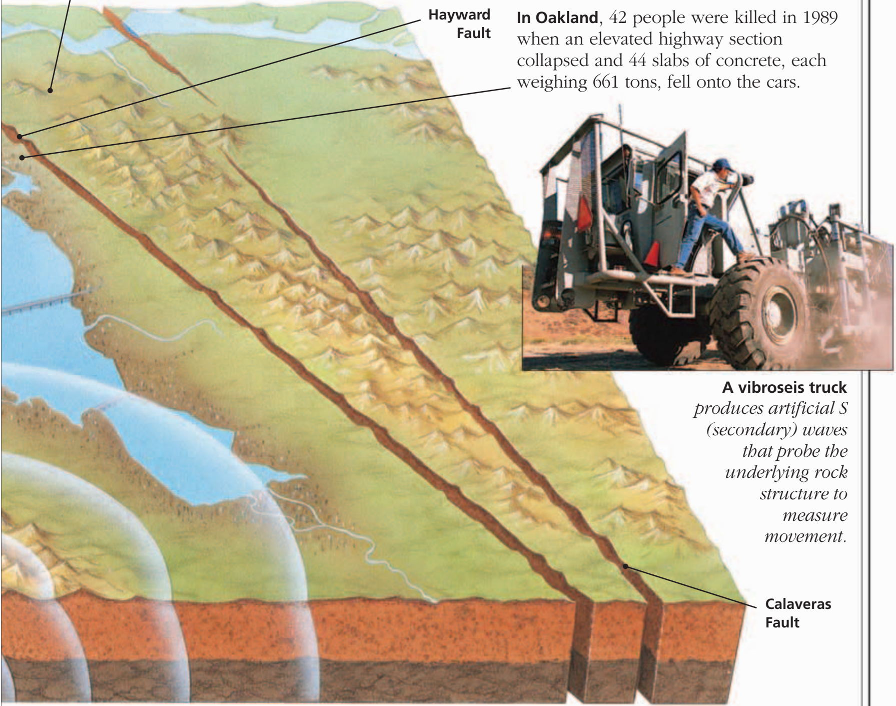
P (primary) waves travel through the Earth's core.

Earthquake energy vibrations *travel like waves through the Earth's crust. The interval between the arrival of the P and S waves tells scientists how far away the epicenter of the earthquake is.*



A seismograph printout *shows the intensity of earthquake vibrations graphically. Inside the seismograph a pen traces P (primary), S (secondary) and L (long) waves on a rotating drum.*

Scientists monitor *the movement of the San Andreas Fault by bouncing laser beams off a network of reflectors. The system can pick up movements of less than 0.025 inch (0.6 mm) over a distance of 4 miles (6 km), enabling seismologists to predict when earthquakes are likely to occur.*



The hills and coastal ranges of the Bay Area are pressure ridges formed by hundreds of fault movements compressing and uplifting the land.

In Oakland, 42 people were killed in 1989 when an elevated highway section collapsed and 44 slabs of concrete, each weighing 661 tons, fell onto the cars.

A vibroseis truck *produces artificial S (secondary) waves that probe the underlying rock structure to measure movement.*

TIMELINE

1769 Members of Portolá's expedition are first Europeans to experience an earthquake in California

Don Gaspar de Portolá

1857 Strong earth tremor followed by smaller tremors in Bay Area

1865 City suffers its first major earthquake on October 9, followed by second quake on October 23

1868 Strong tremor in Hayward Fault

1872 Earthquake demolishes town of Lone Pine and Sierra Nevadas rise 13 ft (4 m)

1890 Pronounced earth tremor

1906 earthquake damage

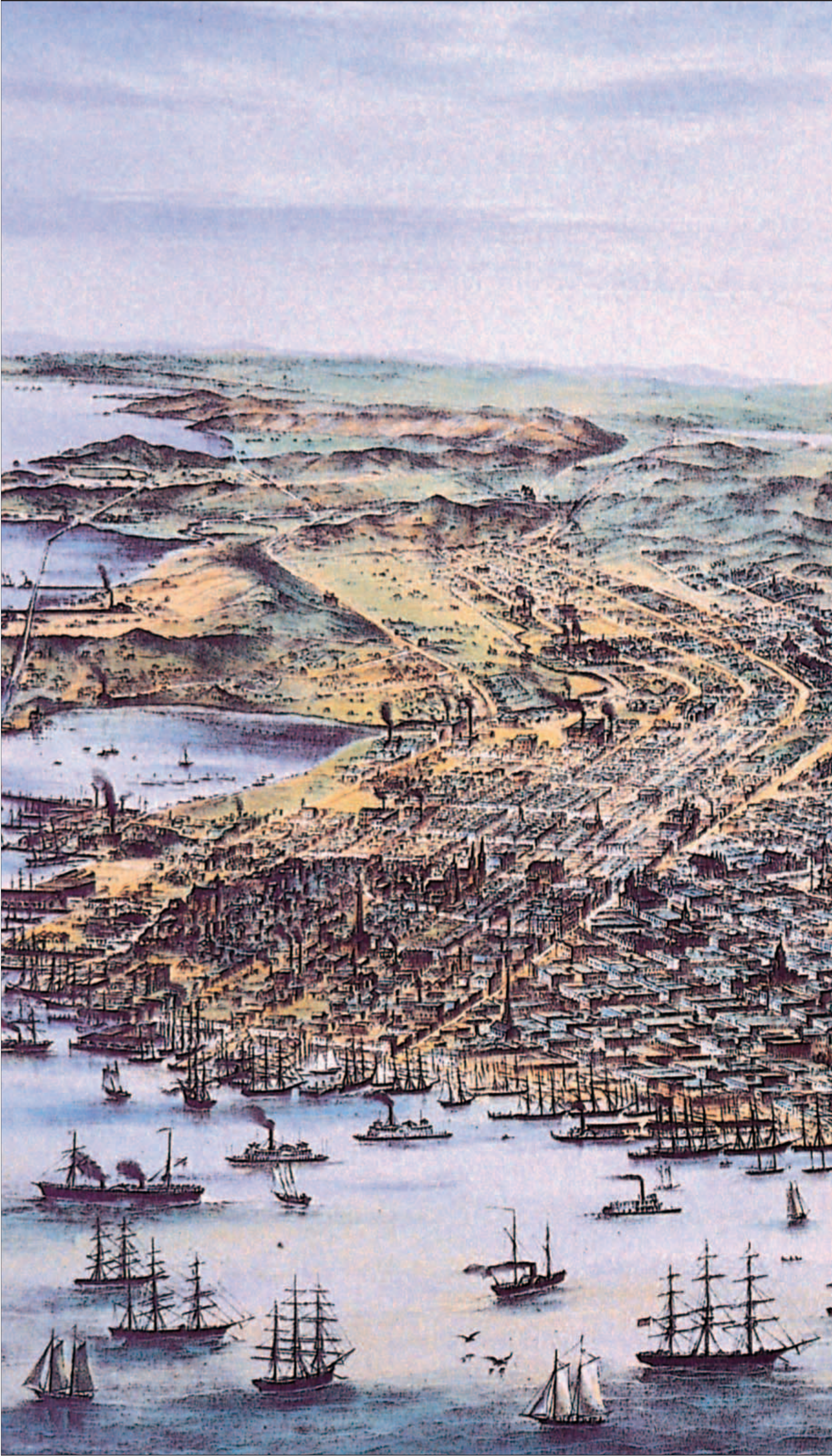
1906 Strongest earthquake ever; 3-day fire destroys much of city leaving 3,000 dead and 250,000 homeless. 52 small tremors shake region over following two days

1957 Strong tremor in Bay Area

1977 8 earth tremors occur

1989 Loma Prieta earthquake strikes city and Bay Area, killing 67 and making 1,800 homeless. Worst quake since 1906

1750 | 1800 | 1850 | 1900 | 1950



THE HISTORY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Seal of the city and county of San Francisco

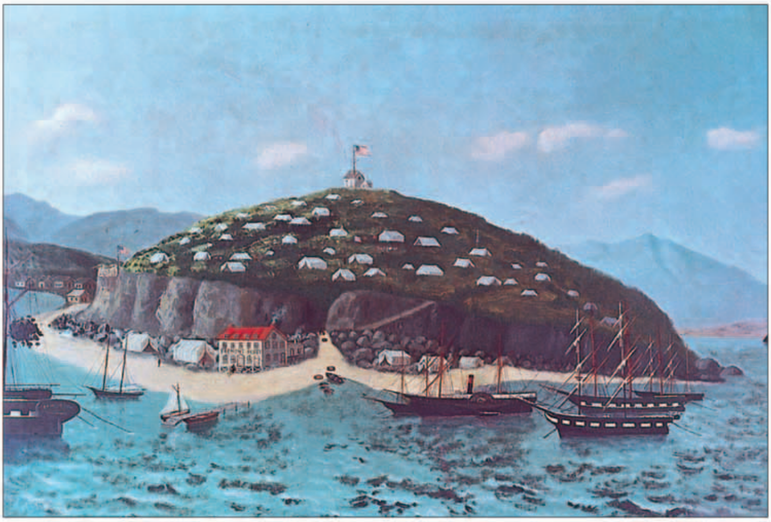
Even by the standards of the New World, San Francisco remained *terra incognita* a surprisingly long time. A few early European explorers, including Portuguese-born João Cabrilho and England's Sir Francis Drake, sailed up and down the length of the California coast in the 16th century, but all of them sailed past the Golden Gate without noticing the bay that lay beyond it. It was not until 1769 that the first nonnatives laid eyes on what is now San Francisco; thereafter the area was colonized swiftly by the Spanish, who established both missions and *presidios* (forts). In 1821, when Mexico declared independence from Spain, it became Mexican territory.

THE GROWING CITY

The first significant boost to growth occurred in 1848, when gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill in the Sierra Nevada foothills near Sacramento. Hundreds of thousands of prospectors were attracted to California from all over the world, leading to the Gold Rush of 1849 (the prospectors of this time were known as '49ers). This coincided with the United States' takeover of the West Coast and, by 1869, San Francisco had grown into an international city renowned both for its wild "Barbary Coast," stretching west from the waterfront, and for the fortunes that were made speculating on the newfound riches of the American frontier.

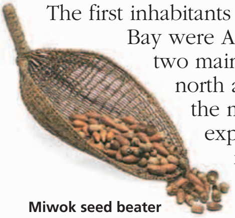
EARTHQUAKE AND RECOVERY

As the population increased, the city grew westward to fill the narrow peninsula: cable cars were invented to conquer the steep hills, and blocks of ornate Victorian houses were built. The great earthquake and fire of 1906 destroyed most of the city but not its spirit, and reconstruction was soon underway. Throughout all of this, San Francisco retained its unique character and seemingly limitless energy. The following pages illustrate significant periods in the city's history.


Telegraph Hill and North Beach at the time of the Gold Rush

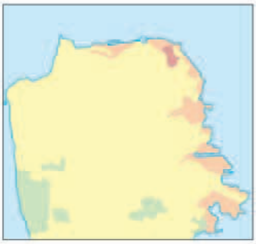
◁ An 1873 print of the city looking south, with Market Street running from the center of the waterfront

Early San Francisco



Miwok seed beater

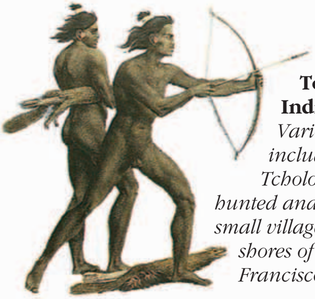
The first inhabitants of the area around San Francisco Bay were American Indians, grouped into two main tribes, the Coast Miwok in the north and the Ohlone in the south. By the mid-1500s, European ships were exploring the California coast, but no contact was made with the Indians until Sir Francis Drake anchored off Point Reyes and claimed it for Queen Elizabeth I. The bay remained undiscovered until 1769, and in 1776 Spain established a small *presidio* (fort) and a mission, named in honor of the founder of the Franciscan order, *San Francisco de Asis.*



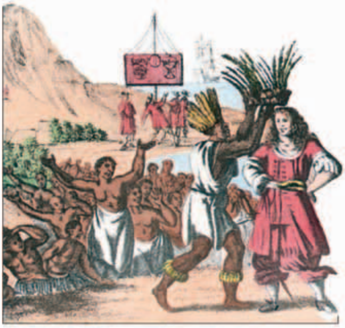
EXTENT OF THE CITY

🟨 *Today* 🟥 *1800*

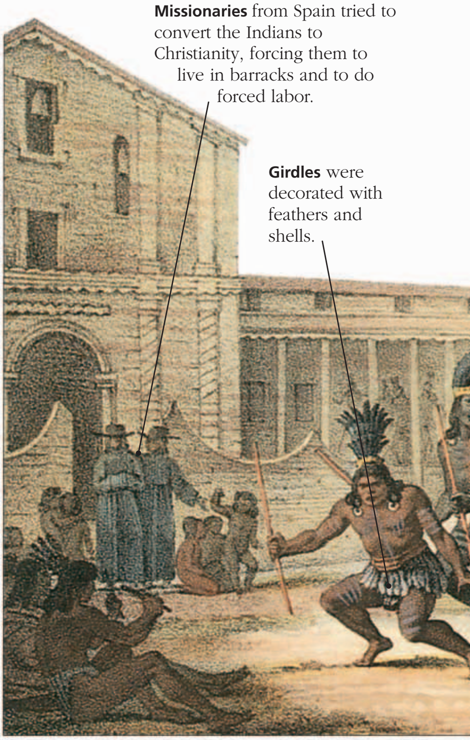
🟧 *Land reclaimed since 1800*



Tcholovoni Indians
Various tribes, including these Tcholovoni Indians, hunted and settled in small villages on the shores of San Francisco Bay.



Drake Lands at Point Reyes *(1579)*
It is thought that Sir Francis Drake landed at what is now called Drake's Bay; he was greeted by Miwok Indians.



Missionaries from Spain tried to convert the Indians to Christianity, forcing them to live in barracks and to do forced labor.

Girdles were decorated with feathers and shells.

TIMELINE

10,000 BC First Indians migrate to the Bay area

AD 1542 Portuguese-born explorer João Cabrilho sights the Farallon Islands off the coast of San Francisco

1602 Sebastian Vizcaino visits Point Reyes, but also fails to find the bay. His glowing reports encourage the later expedition that discovers San Francisco Bay

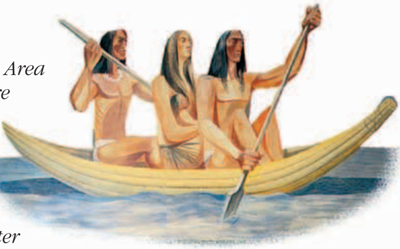
10,000 BC | **AD 1550** | **1600** | **1650**

João Cabrilho (died 1543)

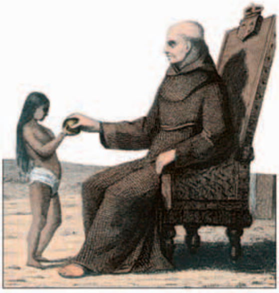
1579 Sir Francis Drake lands near Point Reyes for ship repairs

1595 Spanish trading ship *San Augustin* sinks off Point Reyes

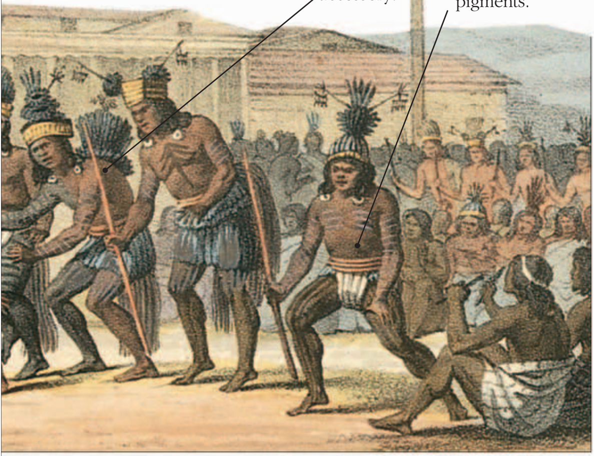
1666 *map showing California as an island*



Kule Loklo Indians
These early Bay Area inhabitants were depicted by Anton Refregier in his mural in the foyer of the Rincon Center Annex (see p113).



The Missions
Under the direction of Father Narciso Duran, the mission of San Jose was the largest and most prosperous in the Bay Area.



A spear was an important dance accessory.

Male dancers painted their bodies with red, black and white pigments.

DANCE AT MISSION DOLORES

The Russian artist Ludovic Choris (1795–1828) drew this picture of Indians dancing outside Mission Dolores in 1816. They decorated their bodies, performing for the missionaries every Sunday.

WHERE TO SEE EARLY SAN FRANCISCO

Early American Indian tools are at the California Academy of Sciences *(pp150–51)*, while Mission Dolores *(p137)* and Oakland Museum *(pp166–7)* have Mission-era artifacts.

17th-century icon *of Saint Peter, carved in Mexico and carried to California, is now in Oakland Museum* (p166).

1701 Father Kino crosses the Colorado River proving that Baja California is a peninsula, not an island

Portolá's 1769 expedition

1769 Don Gaspar de Portolá, leading a party of explorers overland, discovers the bay in November 1769

1775 Spanish ship *San Carlos*, captained by Lt Juan Manuel de Ayala, is the first to enter San Francisco Bay

1776 Juan De Anza leads the first party of settlers overland to San Francisco, arriving on March 28

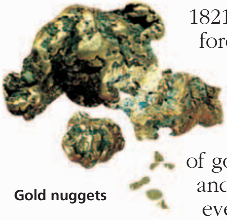
1797 Mission San Jose founded

Indians gambling

1816 Russian traders arrive on the ship *Rurik* and are disturbed by the high mortality rate of American Indians

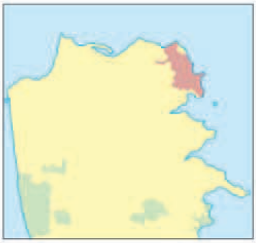
1700 1750 1800

The Gold Rush



Gold nuggets

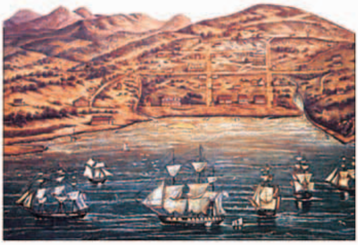
Having broken away from Spain in 1821, Mexico opened California to foreign trade for the first time. Whaling vessels and traders anchored in San Francisco Bay, and a small village began to grow. In 1848, with the discovery of gold in the Sierra Nevada foothills, and the US annexation of California, everything changed. In two years, 100,000 prospectors passed through the Golden Gate, turning San Francisco into a wild frontier city.



EXTENT OF THE CITY

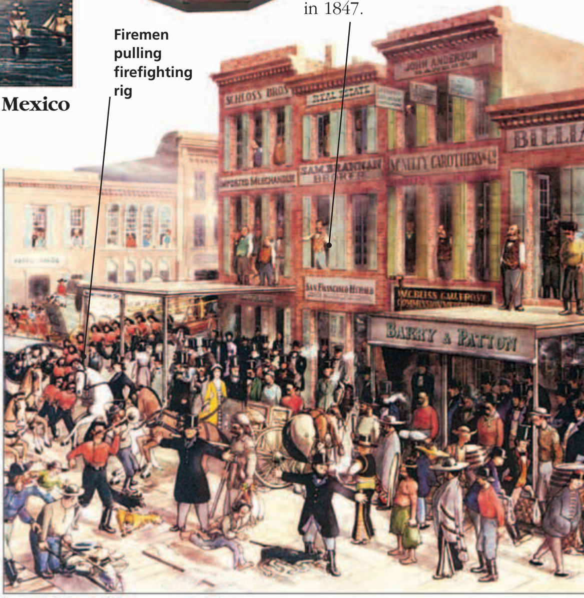
🟨 *Today* 🟥 *1853*

Vallejo's Goblet
This elegant goblet reveals the gracious way of life of General Vallejo, the last Mexican governor of California.



San Francisco Captured from Mexico
On July 9, 1846 the USS Portsmouth *took control of the undefended bay, and 70 US sailors and marines marched ashore, raising the Stars and Stripes in the central plaza.*

Gambling
Fortunes and lives were won or lost on the turn of a card; gambling was a way of life.



Firemen pulling firefighting rig

Sam Brannan set up the city's first newspaper in 1847.

TIMELINE

1820 Whaling ships use Sausalito as main base of operations

1823 Mission San Francisco de Solano founded at Sonoma

1828 Fur trapper Jedediah Smith arrives at Presidio after making the first crossing of the rugged coastal mountains

1834 Missions close, and their assets are divided among Mexican landowners

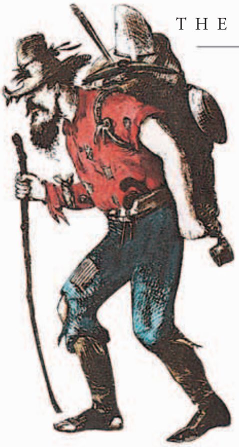
1820

1830

1822 The Mexican Revolution ends Spanish rule over California

Richardson's hand-drawn map of Yerba Buena (San Francisco) in 1835

1835 William Richardson founds Yerba Buena, later renamed San Francisco

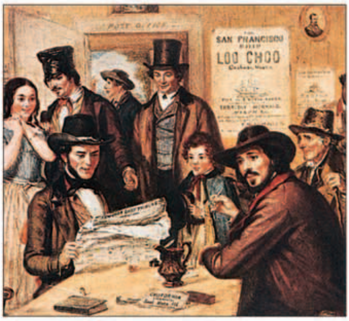


Ragged Gold Miner
A weary prospector endures the long trek to the gold fields; many returned empty-handed.

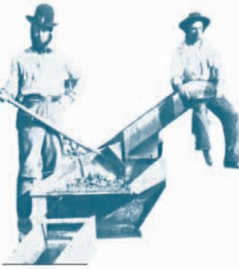
Scales used by Wells Fargo

WHERE TO SEE GOLD RUSH SAN FRANCISCO

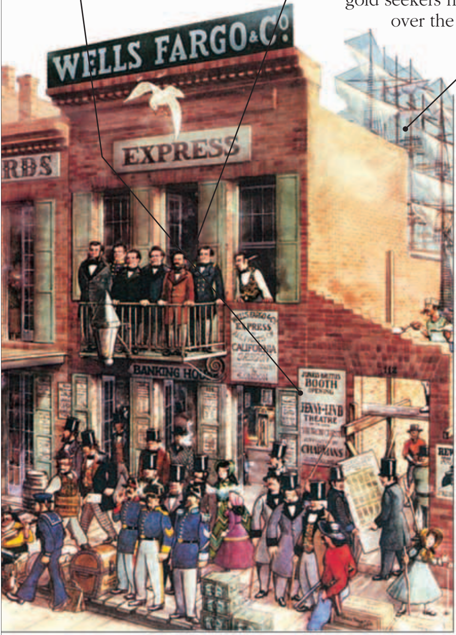
Little remains of the Gold Rush city, but you can get a feel for this era at the Wells Fargo History Museum *(see p110)*, the Bank of California's Museum of Money in the American West *(p112)*, or the Oakland Museum *(see pp166–7)*.



News of Gold Reaches New York
Confirmed by President Polk on December 5, 1848, the gold find inspired thousands to head west.



Panning for Gold
In 1849, more than 90,000 "Forty-Niners" passed through San Francisco. They faced long, hard hours panning for gold in the streams of the Sacramento Valley and Sierra Nevadas.



Burlesque theater was a popular entertainment in the growing city.

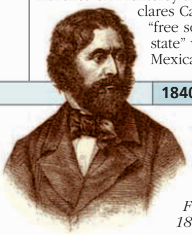
Wells Fargo administrators

Tall ships brought gold seekers from all over the world.

MONTGOMERY STREET IN 1852

This street was the business center. Here Wells Fargo, whose stagecoaches brought goods to the miners and carried back gold, built the city's first brick building.

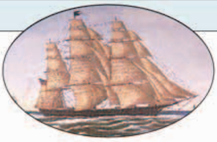
1836 Juan Batista Alvarado marches on Monterey and declares California a "free sovereign state" within the Mexican republic



John Fremont 1813–90

1846 Bear Flag Revolt is led by explorer John Fremont and settlers in May. US troops occupy state capital (Monterey) on July 7 and take Yerba Buena on July 9

1851 Clipper *Flying Cloud* takes 89 days to reach San Francisco from New York



1840

1850

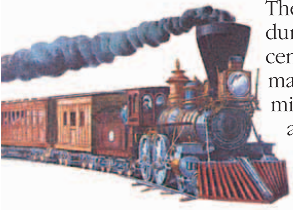
1847 Village of Yerba Buena is officially renamed San Francisco. City now comprises 200 buildings with 800 inhabitants

1850 California admitted to United States

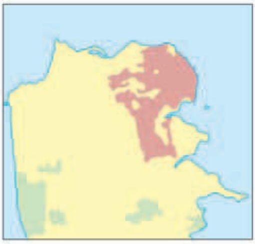
1848 Gold discovered by John Marshall in Sierra Nevada foothills, starting the Gold Rush of 1849

The Victorian Years

The city's real boom years occurred during the second half of the 19th century, when some San Franciscans made huge fortunes from the silver mines of Nevada's Comstock Lode, and from the transcontinental railroad, completed in 1869. Saloons and brothels abounded along the waterfront in the legendary Barbary Coast district, while the wealthy built palaces at the top of Nob Hill. As the city expanded, its streets were lined by ornate Victorian houses, and by the turn of the century, the population topped 300,000, making it the largest city west of Chicago.



Transcontinental train

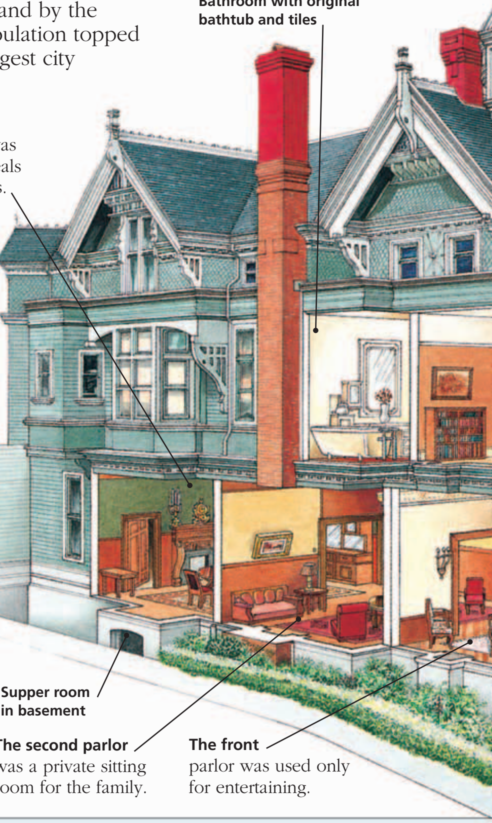


EXTENT OF THE CITY

▭ *Today*	▨ *1870*

Silver Urn

Presented to Senator Edward Baker in 1860, this urn celebrated future San Francisco business projects, particularly the transcontinental railroad.



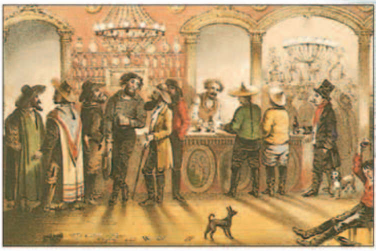
Bathroom with original bathtub and tiles

The dining room was used for family meals and formal dinners.

Supper room in basement

The second parlor was a private sitting room for the family.

The front parlor was used only for entertaining.



Barbary Coast Saloon

Gambling and prostitution were rife in the Barbary Coast, and drunken men were often pressed into naval service.

TIMELINE

1856 Increasing lawlessness: vigilantes hang four men

1862 First telegraph connection between New York and San Francisco

1869 Transcontinental railroad completed, making fortunes for the infamous "Big Four" *(see p102)*

1873 Levi Strauss patents process for making riveted jeans *(see p135)*

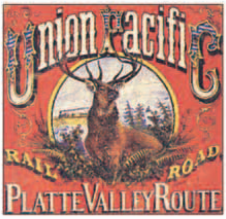
1850 **1860** **1870**

Emperor Norton (died 1880)

1854 Local eccentric, Joshua Norton, proclaims himself Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico, issuing his own currency

1863 Ground is broken in Sacramento for the Central Pacific Railroad; thousands of Chinese are hired to build it

1873 First San Francisco cable car is tested on Clay Street



Union Pacific Railroad
In 1869, the Union Pacific met the San Francisco-based Central Pacific in Utah at Promontory Point to form the first transcontinental railroad.

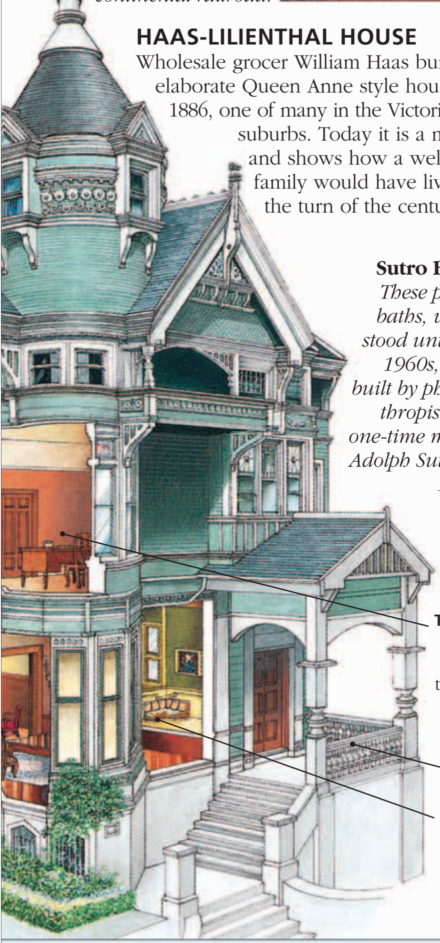
WHERE TO SEE THE VICTORIAN CITY

Well-preserved Victorian buildings can be seen all over San Francisco, but only Haas-Lilienthal House *(see p72)* and Octagon House *(p75)* are open to the public on a regular basis. Jackson Square Historical District *(p110)* is the best place to see what remains of the Barbary Coast.

Gothic Revival birdcage from the 19th century at Oakland Museum *(pp166–7)*

HAAS-LILIENTHAL HOUSE

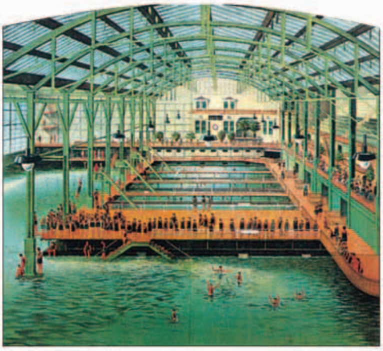
Wholesale grocer William Haas built this elaborate Queen Anne style house in 1886, one of many in the Victorian-era suburbs. Today it is a museum and shows how a well-to-do family would have lived at the turn of the century.


The sitting room was originally the master bedroom.

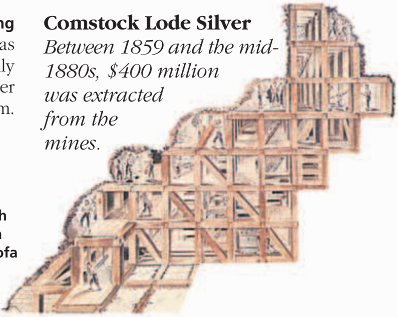
Porch

Hall, with Victorian corner sofa

Sutro Baths
These public baths, which stood until the 1960s, were built by philanthropist and one-time mayor Adolph Sutro in 1896.



Comstock Lode Silver
Between 1859 and the mid-1880s, $400 million was extracted from the mines.



1886 10,000 trade unionists take part in the biggest labor parade to date in San Francisco

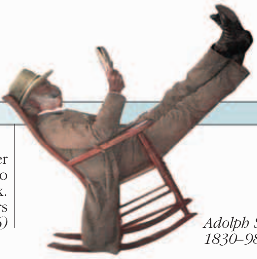
1896 Adolph Sutro opens the world's largest public baths north of Cliff House

1901 Power broker Abe Ruef runs San Francisco

1880

1900

1887 Scottish gardener John McLaren is hired to tend Golden Gate Park. He stays for 50 years *(see p146)*


Adolph Sutro 1830–98

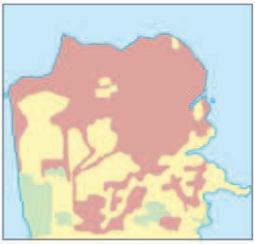
1899 Frank Norris writes the classic novel, *McTeague: A Story of San Francisco*

1900 Fisherman's Wharf is built

The 1906 Earthquake and Fire

The massive earthquake that hit San Francisco just after 5am on April 18, 1906 caused one of the worst disasters in US history. The tremor, many times more powerful than any other to hit the city before or since, instantly collapsed hundreds of buildings, and subsequent fires engulfed the city center. More than 6 sq miles (15 sq km) were reduced to rubble, and estimated death tolls ranged from an official 700 to a more credible 3,000, while as many as 250,000 people were made homeless. Since most property owners were insured against damage by fire, the city was able to rebuild quickly, and by the end of the decade business had returned to normal.

City Hall after the earthquake

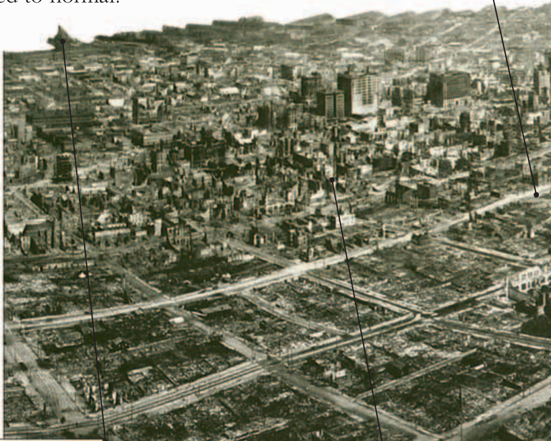


EXTENT OF THE CITY

🟨 *Today* 🟥 *1906*

House Of Mirth
Ring The Bell For Landlady
Elevator
46

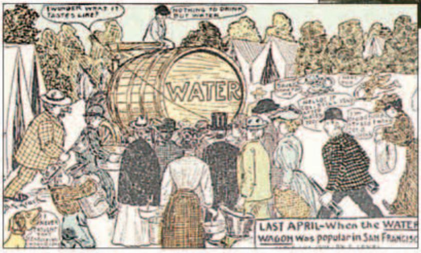
The House of Mirth
In the summer of 1906 more than 100,000 residents had to make their homes in refugee camps.



Powell Street cable cars were back in service within two years. The rest of the system, much reduced, was operational by 1915.

The Ferry Building was saved from destruction by fireboats spraying water from the bay.

Chinatown burned completely to the ground.


I WONDER WHAT IT TASTES LIKE?
NOTHING TO DRINK BUT WATER
WATER
LAST APRIL–When the WATE
WAGON was popular in SAN FRANCISC

Spirit of San Francisco
Cartoonists were quick to see the funny side of their changed lives; scarcity of water provoked some ironic comment.

TIMELINE

1905 Architect Daniel Burnham submits radical plans to improve the city center

1907 Fairmont Hotel reopens exactly one year after the earthquake

Fairmont Hotel

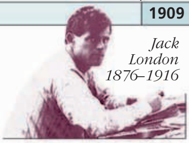
1909 Jack London writes *Martin Eden*, a thinly veiled autobiography

1905 **1906** **1907** **1908** **1909**

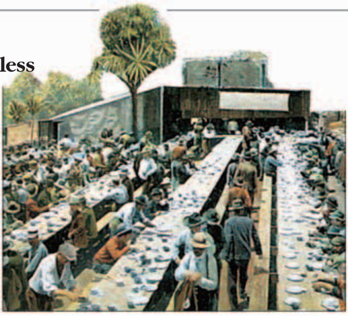
Burnham Plan

1906 Earthquake, measuring 8.25 on the Richter scale, and 3-day fire, reduce the city to rubble; tremors continue for 2 days

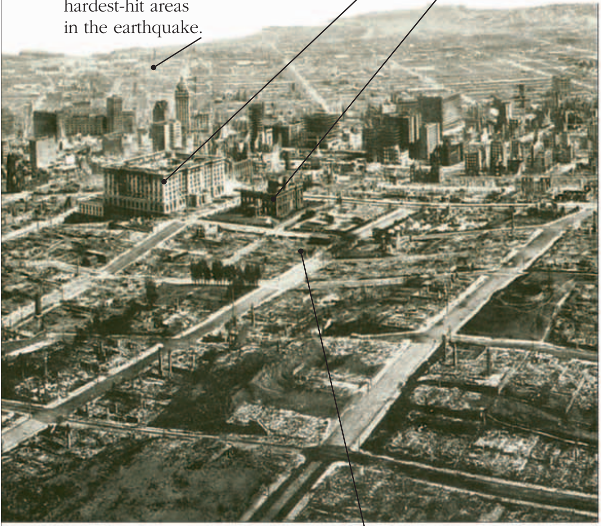
1907 Abe "Boss" Ruef pleads guilty to extortion



Jack London 1876–1916



Feeding the Homeless in Union Square
The US Army took responsibility for providing food and shelter for the thousands of victims who lost members of their family, their homes and possessions.

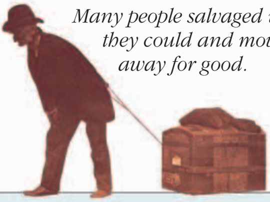


South of Market District, built on unstable soil, was one of the hardest-hit areas in the earthquake.

The Fairmont Hotel burned, but was rebuilt inside the original façade.

The Flood Mansion's stone frame survived the quake; it can be seen today as the Pacific-Union Club.

Nob Hill's wooden mansions burned like kindling.



The Homeless
Many people salvaged what they could and moved away for good.

Clearing Up
As soon as the flames had abated, buildings were torn down and cleared for restoration.

WHERE TO SEE THE 1906 EARTHQUAKE

Artifacts and exhibits pertaining to the 1906 disaster are found all over the city. Information on the quake can be viewed in the foyer of the Sheraton Palace Hotel and at www.sfmuseum.org.

Cups and saucers *fused by the heat of the fire are among artifacts on display at the Oakland Museum* (pp166–7).

THE DESTRUCTION

Traveling at 7,000 mph (11,265 km), the earthquake overwhelmed the city center. Flames erupted from burst gas mains and, in 3 days, destroyed 28,000 buildings: prime city property valued at $400 million.

Mayor "Sunny Jim" Rolph 1869–1948

Plans for San Francisco, the Exposition City

1910

1911

1911 "Sunny Jim" Rolph is elected mayor; serves until 1930

1912

1912 San Francisco named as official site of 1915 Panama–Pacific Exposition

1913

1913 Last horse-drawn streetcar withdrawn from service

1913 Congress controversially approves dam that floods the Hetch Hetchy Valley, 150 miles (240 km) east of the city

1914 Stockton Street tunnel opens

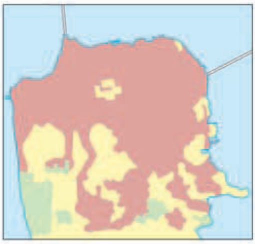
1914

The Golden Age

SUNSET
JUNE-JULY · 1906

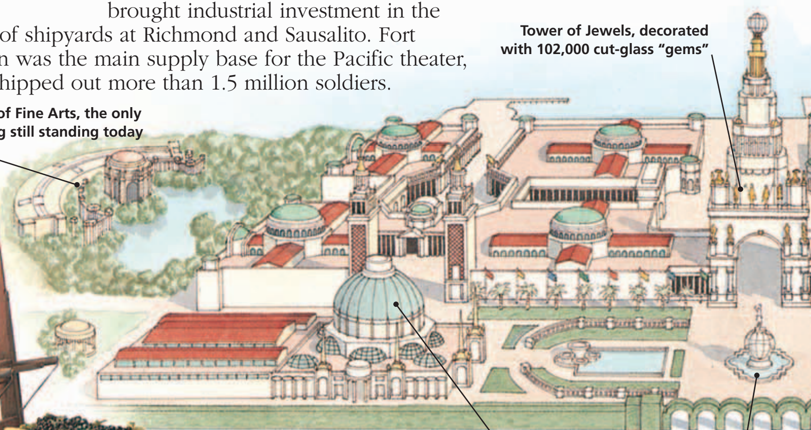
Poster publicizing the Pan–Pacific Exposition

Neither World War I in Europe nor the beginning of Prohibition in the US could dampen the city's renewed energy after 1906. The 1920s saw the creation of major museums, theaters and other civic buildings. Even the Great Depression was not as painful as it was elsewhere in the US – many of the city's monuments, including Coit Tower and both bay bridges, were built during these years. World War II brought industrial investment in the form of shipyards at Richmond and Sausalito. Fort Mason was the main supply base for the Pacific theater, and shipped out more than 1.5 million soldiers.



EXTENT OF THE CITY

🟨 *Today* 🟥 *1920*



Palace of Fine Arts, the only building still standing today

Tower of Jewels, decorated with 102,000 cut-glass "gems"

***Fountain of Energy* by A. Stirling Calder, depicting victorious youth**

Palace of Horticulture with plants from all over the world

PANAMA–PACIFIC EXPOSITION OF 1915

To celebrate the city's revival after 1906 and to mark the completion of the Panama Canal, San Francisco hosted the magical Exposition, which attracted 20 million visitors over 10 months *(see p72)*.

EKCO
Embarcadero

Land of Plenty
California's farmland became the most productive in the US in the 1920s.

King Oliver's Creole Band
Catching the mood of the 1920s, King Oliver's jazz band became the hottest combo of the decade.

TIMELINE

Pan–Pacific commemorative medal

1915 · 1920 · 1925 · 1930

1915 Pan–Pacific Exposition runs from February 20 to December 4

1917 Crissy Field Airfield at Presidio opens

1917 Main Public Library opens at Civic Center

1920 Prohibition begins

1921 de Young Museum opens

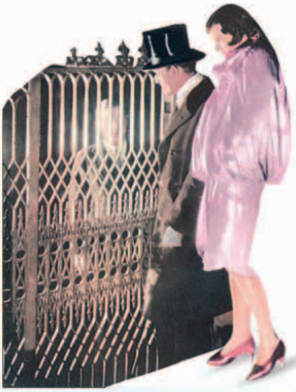
1923 President Warren G. Harding dies at the Palace Hotel

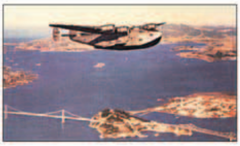
1924 California Palace of the Legion of Honor opens

1924 First air mail flight lands at Crissy Field

1927 Mills Field airfield, now the site of San Francisco International Airport, opens

1929 Stock exchange crash precipitates depression





Pan American Clippers Arrive
San Francisco Bay was the starting point for flights across the Pacific.

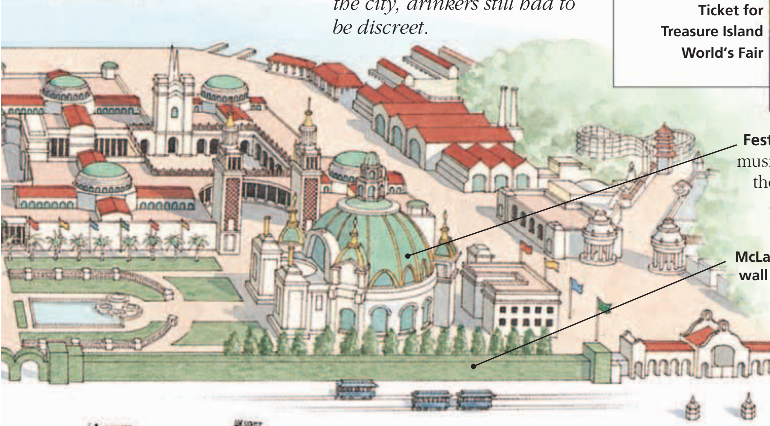
Defying Prohibition
Although Prohibition was not stringently enforced in the city, drinkers still had to be discreet.

WHERE TO SEE THE GOLDEN YEARS

The only survivor of the 1915 Exposition is the landmark Palace of Fine Arts *(see pp60–61)*. The Old US Mint *(p117)* and the History Room of the Main Library *(p125)* both have extensive displays of objects from this era.

WORLD'S FAIR PREMIERE
FEBRUARY 18 '39
"I WAS THERE"
SOUVENIR TICKET
1939
GOLDEN GATE
INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION

Ticket for Treasure Island World's Fair

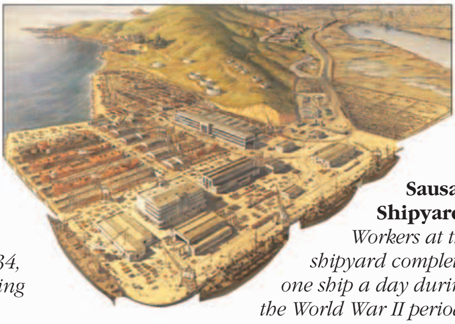


Festival Hall, the musical center of the Exposition, seated 3,500.

McLaren's Hedge, a wall of grass

DON'T scab
International Longshoremen Association
SEAMEN

Longshoreman's Strike
On "Bloody Thursday," July 5, 1934, police opened fire on dockers striking for better conditions, killing two.



Sausalito Shipyard
Workers at this shipyard completed one ship a day during the World War II period.

Hetch Hetchy Dam

1939 World War II in Europe. Opening of World's Fair on Treasure Island

1937 Golden Gate Bridge opens

1941 Japan attacks US at Pearl Harbor

1942 Japanese-American internment begins

1945 End of World War II

1935

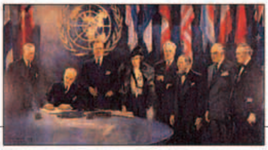
1940

1945

1933 Prohibition ends

1934 Hetch Hetchy Dam project completed. Three-day general strike in sympathy with dockers

1936 Bay Bridge opens. Pan American Clippers arrive in the city



Signing of the United Nations Charter in the city in 1945

1945 UN Peace Conference held at San Francisco April 25–June 25 to found the United Nations

Postwar San Francisco

Since World War II, San Francisco has seen both good times and bad. Site of the founding of the United Nations in 1945, the city was home to the Beats of the 1950s and the scene of "Love-ins" and "Be-ins" in the Flower Power 1960s. At the same time, the Bay Area was the scene of angry antiwar and civil rights demonstrations. One of the wealthiest parts of the US, the area was hit hard by AIDS, homelessness and a devastating earthquake in 1989.

Neal Cassady and Jack Kerouac

1950s Jack Kerouac, Neal Cassady, Allen Ginsberg and others strike chords of dissatisfaction and creativity to initiate the "Beat" movement and the "politics of dissent" and free love

1969 Indians of All Tribes occupy Alcatraz to publicize Indian grievances

1969 San Francisco blues and soul star Janis Joplin develops alcoholism and drug problems. She dies in 1970 from a heroin overdose

1970s Leader of the Oakland-based Black Panthers, Huey Newton (on the right) gains widespread sympathy on college campuses during the turbulent '60s and '70s

1978 Mayor George Moscone is assassinated at City Hall by former policeman Dan White, who also kills popular gay politician Harvey Milk

George Moscone

1945 1950 1955 1960 1965 1970 1975 1980

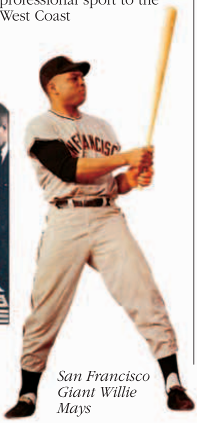
1945 1950 1955 1960 1965 1970 1975 1980

August 15, 1945 Riotous celebrations break out across San Francisco at the end of World War II. Thousands of troops return to the US through the Golden Gate

1951 Six years after the fighting stopped between the US and Japan, the treaty ending the war was signed in the San Francisco War Memorial Opera House

1954 The new San Francisco International Airport opens at former Mills Field airfield

1958 The New York Giants baseball team moves to San Francisco, bringing major league professional sport to the West Coast

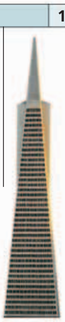


San Francisco Giant Willie Mays

1965 Ground is broken for the Dragon Gateway on Grant Avenue

1967 First Be-in attracts 25,000 hippies and others to Golden Gate Park for a day of music. The Monterey Pop Festival features such talents as Jimi Hendrix, Otis Redding and The Who

1973 Transamerica Pyramid is completed and given mixed reviews by San Francisco critics



1978 Apple Computer, which grows into one of the Bay Area's largest businesses, designs and produces its first personal computer

1992 Fires blaze across Oakland hills killing 26 people and burning 3,000 houses

1995 Candlestick Park renamed 3Com Park

2002 3Com Park naming rights expire, and stadium becomes Candlestick Park again

2000 Opening game played at new Pacific Bell Park (now AT&T Park)

2007 Residents experience an earthquake measuring 4.2 on the Richter scale

1985 **1990** **1995** **2000** **2005** **2010** **2015** **2020**

1985 **1990** **1995** **2000** **2005** **2010** **2015** **2020**

2008 The Contemporary Jewish Museum, designed by Daniel Libeskind, opens

1994 Presidio Army Base turned over to the National Park Service

2006 San Francisco congresswoman Nancy Pelosi is the first woman to become elected speaker of the United States House of Representatives

1989 Major earthquake hits San Francisco during World Series baseball game between Bay Area rivals: freeways collapse, killing dozens

1999 After 15 years as the speaker of the California Assembly, Democrat Willie Brown is sworn in as San Francisco's first black mayor

CALIFORNIA
OB

SAN FRANCISCO AT A GLANCE

More than 200 places of interest are described in the *Area by Area* section of this book. They range from the bustling alleys, shops and restaurants of Chinatown to the verdant expanses of Golden Gate Park, and from ornate Victorian houses to soaring city center skyscrapers. The following 12 pages are a time-saving guide to the best San Francisco has to offer visitors. Museums and architecture each have a section, and there is a guide to the diverse cultures that have given the city its unique character. Below are the top attractions that no tourist should miss.

SAN FRANCISCO'S TOP TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

California Academy of Sciences
See pp148–51

Coit Tower
See p93

Ghirardelli

Ghirardelli Square
See p83

Golden Gate Bridge
See pp64–7

Golden Gate Park
See pp142–53

Grant Avenue
See p99

POWELL & HYDE Sts.
SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL RAILWAY

Cable Cars
See pp104–5

Union Square
See p116

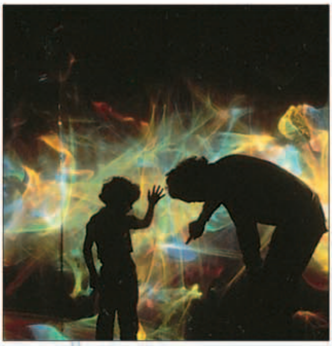
Alcatraz Island
See pp84–7

Japan Center
See p128

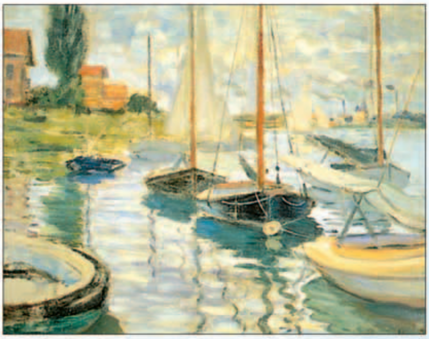
◁ **Celebrating on a motorized cable car tour *(see p293)***

San Francisco's Best: Museums and Galleries

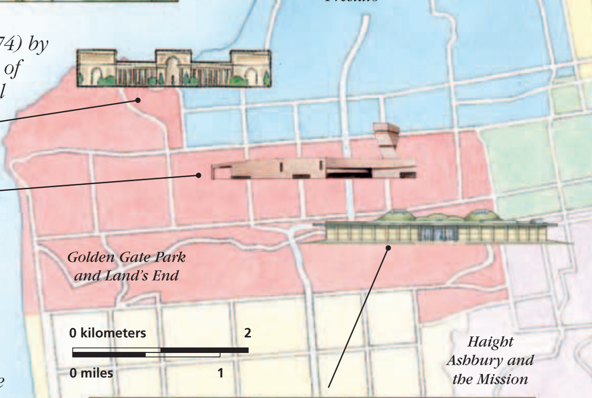
Museums and galleries in the city range from the Legion of Honor and the de Young Museum to the contemporary art of the Museum of Modern Art and the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. There are several excellent science museums, including the Exploratorium and the California Academy of Sciences. Other museums celebrate San Francisco's heritage and the people and events that made the city what it is today. More details on the area's museums and galleries are given on pages 38 and 39.



The Exploratorium
Visitors experiment with Sun Painting, *a feast of light and color at this leading US science museum.*

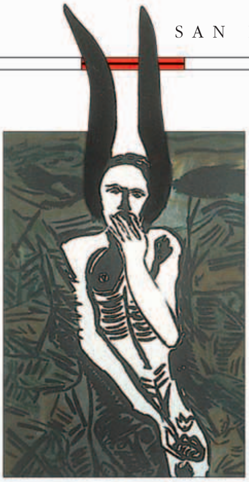


Legion of Honor
Sailboat on the Seine *(c.1874) by Monet is part of a collection of European art from medieval times to the 19th century.*


Presidio
Golden Gate Park and Land's End
0 kilometers
2
0 miles
1
Haight Ashbury and the Mission

de Young Museum
This landmark art museum showcases collections of art from the Americas, Africa, and the Pacific, as well as an astounding collection of textiles, photography, sculptures, crafts, and modern and contemporary art.

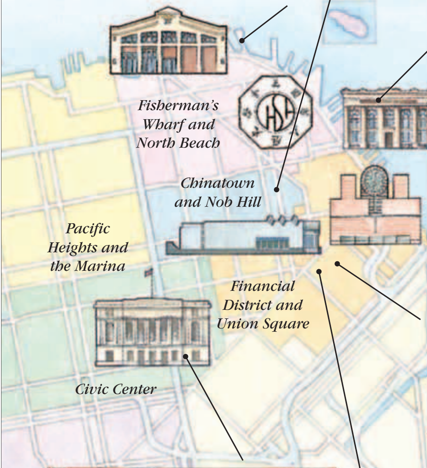
California Academy of Sciences
Sensitively integrated into the environment of Golden Gate Park, the California Academy of Sciences includes an aquarium, planetarium, and natural history museum.

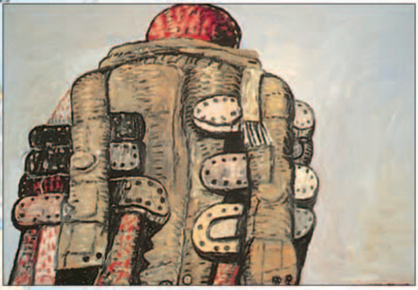


Fort Mason Museums
Muto *by Mimo Paladino (1985) is in one of the ethnic culture museums.*

Chinese Historical Society
This magnificent dragon's head belongs to the Society which administers one of the city's smallest museums. Within is a unique collection that tells the story of California's Chinese communities.

Wells Fargo History Museum
This bronze stagecoach (1984) is by M. Casper. The small gallery in which this is situated illustrates the colorful history of California, from the early days of the Gold Rush.

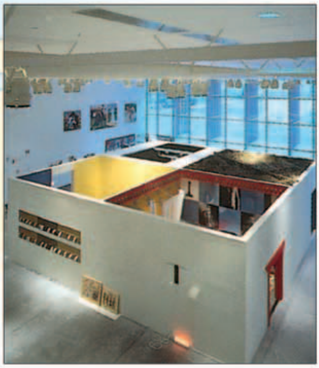

Fisherman's Wharf and North Beach
Chinatown and Nob Hill
Pacific Heights and the Marina
Financial District and Union Square
Civic Center



San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Back View *by Philip Guston (1977) can be found in this highly regarded museum. In 1995 the museum moved to premises, designed by architect Mario Botta.*

ASIAN
ASIAN

Asian Art Museum
This museum is located in the Civic Center, a lovely 1917 Beaux Arts building.

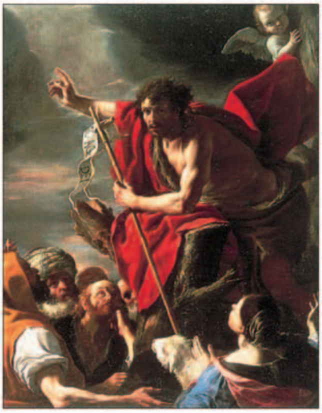


Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
This gallery at Yerba Buena Gardens displays contemporary art in rotating exhibits: there is no permanent collection.

Exploring San Francisco's Museums and Galleries

Clay pot by Clayton Bailey, Craft and Folk Art Museum

San Francisco boasts a number of established and respectable collections of paintings, sculpture, photography, artifacts, and design. In addition, high-profile projects, such as the building of a new home for the Museum of Modern Art and the renovation of the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, assured that the city retained its identity as the US West Coast's center of art and culture. Other Bay Area treasures are the many science and technology museums.



***Saint John the Baptist Preaching* (c.1660) by Mattia Preti at the Legion of Honor**

PAINTING AND SCULPTURE

Two renowned art museums, the **Legion of Honor** and the **de Young Museum** are impressive showcases for a comprehensive collection of European and American painting and sculpture. The Legion of Honor focuses on French art of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, with works by Renoir, Monet and Degas as well as more than 70 sculptures by Rodin. The famous collection of graphic works owned by the Achenback Foundation is also on display here.

The **Asian Art Museum** is located in its permanent home at the Old Main Library. It has Far Eastern paintings, sculpture, artifacts and fine jade figurines.

The most dynamic of the art museums in San Francisco is the **Museum of Modern Art**, with its vast array of 20th-century painting and sculpture. The SFMOMA holds works by Picasso and Matisse as well as an extensive holding of drawings and paintings by Paul Klee. Abstract Expressionists, particularly Mark Rothko and Clyfford Still, and California artists represented by Sam Francis and Richard Diebenkorn, are also included in this notable collection.

Another vibrant showcase for contemporary artists, the **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts** is well worth a visit. The same is true of the commercial **John Berggruen Gallery**, with its wide variety of works on display by both emerging artists and more mature, well-established artists.

Outside the city limits, the **Stanford University** Museum of Art has excellent Rodin sculptures, while both the **UC Berkeley** Art Museum and the **Oakland Museum** have valuable art collections.

Fletcher Benton's 'M' sculpture outside the Oakland Museum

DESIGN

Many of the larger, more prestigious museums in the San Francisco area have worthwhile holdings of design and applied art. Major collections of architectural models and drawings are held at the **Museum of Modern Art**.

You can see Mission-style and turn-of-the-century Arts and Crafts pieces at the **Oakland Museum**.

There is also a small, but interesting, collection of late 18th-century artifacts and furniture on display inside the **Octagon House**, itself a fine, and unique, example of Victorian architectural house design *(see pp76–7)*.

The **California Historical Society** *(see p113)* has an eclectic collection of fine and decorative arts as well as the largest single public collection of 19th century California prints and photography.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND PRINTS

Photography is a field in which San Francisco's museums excel, with world-class examples of most periods and styles. The **Museum of Modern Art**'s collection ranges from the earliest form of daguerreotypes to classic images by modern masters such as Helen Levitt, Robert Frank and Richard Avedon.

Oakland Museum displays rolling exhibitions by Bay Area-based photographers such as Ansel Adams and Imogen Cunningham and holds documentary collections including an impressive array of photographs by iconic American photographers such as Dorothea Lange. The **Fraenkel** and **SF Camerawork** galleries are excellent, while for prints, the Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts in the **Legion of Honor** has more than 100,000 works.

After the Earthquake **(1906) photograph, Mission Dolores museum**

HISTORY AND LOCAL INTEREST

No single museum is devoted to the city's entire history, although several collections cover different aspects of San Francisco's past. A small museum at **Mission Dolores** gives insight into the city's founding and early period. The **Wells Fargo History Museum** has a display on the Gold Rush, the small museum at the **Presidio Visitor Center** traces the area's military history, and the California Historical Society offers fertile ground for researchers and history buffs.

Also well worth a visit are the **Chinese Historical Society of America** and the African-American Historical and Cultural Society Museum at **Fort Mason**, which document the respective histories of the Chinese and African-American communities in San Francisco.

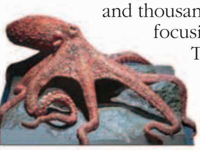
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

One of the preeminent hands-on technological museums in the world, the **Exploratorium** has hundreds of interactive displays that explore the science behind everyday events. This is one of San Francisco's most popular museums, and it is especially fascinating for children.

Across the bay, the Lawrence Hall of Science at **UC Berkeley** plays an equally important role in promoting interest in science. South of the city, San Jose's growing **Tech Museum of Innovation** tells the inside story of computers, developed largely in surrounding Silicon Valley, and also has exciting hands-on displays.

NATURAL HISTORY

An extensive natural history collection is displayed at the **California Academy of Sciences**. This features such exhibitions as the evolution of species, plate tectonics (with a vibrating platform that simulates an earthquake), and gems and minerals. There is also a large planetarium, and a Fish Roundabout, where visitors cross a ramp surrounded by a tank of sharks and other sea life. The **Oakland Museum** has an entire floor devoted to the varied eco-systems of California, which are reconstructed through a series of realistic dioramas.



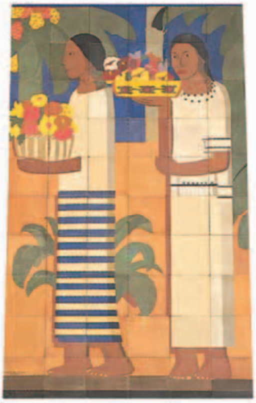
Octopus in the Oakland Museum

ART FROM OTHER CULTURES

Art and artifacts from California's native cultures are on display in the Hearst Museum of Anthropology at **UC Berkeley**. Exhibitions are drawn from the museum's collection.

The **Contemporary Jewish Museum** explores Judaism through a range of art exhibits and installations.

Fort Mason has a wealth of art from other cultures: ethnic and American art can be seen at the Mexican Museum and the San Francisco Craft and Folk Art Museum; Italian-American works of the 20th century are displayed at the Museo ItaloAmericano.



Tile mural (1940–45) by Alfredo Ramos Martínez, Mexican Museum

LIBRARIES

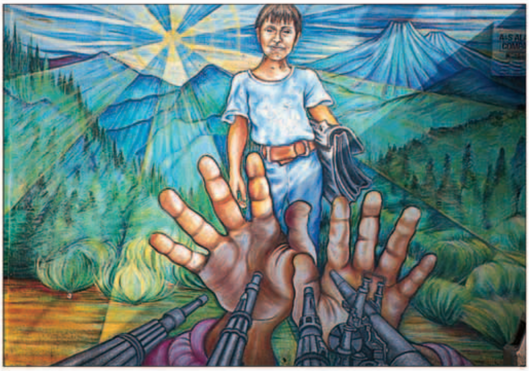
San Francisco has extensive general libraries including the **Main Library**, which has a special research collection comprising hundreds of books and thousands of photographs focusing on city history. The area's two main universities, **UC Berkeley** and **Stanford**, have extensive collections including historical holdings.

WHERE TO FIND THE COLLECTIONS

Asian Art Museum *p126* **Map** 4 F5.
California Academy of Sciences *pp150–51* **Map** 4 F5.
California Historical Society *p113*
Chinese Historical Society of America *p100*
Contemporary Jewish Museum *p113*
de Young Museum *p147* **Map** 8 F2.
Exploratorium *pp60–61*
Fort Mason *pp74–5*
Fraenkel Gallery 49 Geary St. **Map** 5 C5.
John Berggruen Gallery 228 Grant Avenue. **Map** 5 C4.
Legion of Honor *pp156–7* **Map** 4 F5.
Mission Dolores *p137*
Museum of Modern Art *pp118–21*
Oakland Museum *pp166–7*
Octagon House *p75*
Presidio Visitor Center *p62*
SF Camerawork 657 Mission St. **Map** 6 D5.
Stanford University *p169*
Tech Museum of Innovation *p168*
UC Berkeley *p162*
Wells Fargo History Museum *p110*
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts *pp114–15*

Exploring San Francisco's Many Cultures

Half the population of San Francisco is either foreign-born or first-generation American. Spanish and Mexican pioneers who arrived in the 18th and early 19th centuries established the foundations of today's city, and the Gold Rush *(see pp24–5)* attracted fortune-seekers from all over the globe. Those who stayed built new communities and some, such as the Italians and the Chinese, have continued to maintain their own traditions.



Mission District mural commemorating the cease-fire in El Salvador

THE HISPANIC-AMERICANS

You cannot go far in San Francisco without coming across signs of the Hispanic heritage of a city that was once the northernmost outpost of Spanish America, then Mexico. After the American takeover in 1846 *(see pp24–5)* Mexican landowners were displaced by incoming prospectors and settlers, and most were left homeless. However, many stayed in the Bay Area and the Hispanic population has remained stable (about 10 per-cent of the total) ever since.

Wandering among the *taquerias* (snack bars) and *mercados* (shops) of the Mission District, it is easy to imagine you are somewhere far south of the border.

THE CHINESE

Since the gold rush days in the late 1840s, when an estimated 25,000 people fled from the chaos of China to work in the California mines, the Chinese have maintained a significant presence in San Francisco. A second wave of immigrants, almost exclusively from Canton, arrived to work on the transcontinental railroad in the 1860s. By the 1870s, the Chinese formed the largest of the city's minority groups, with 40,000 people living in poor conditions in and around Chinatown. At this time, the Chinese men outnumbered the Chinese women by 20 to one. In the decades that followed, the population of the Chinese community shrank due to the Exclusion Laws. In the 1960s, immigration controls were relaxed by President Kennedy, and opponents of the Mao regime living in Hong Kong were given permission to emigrate to the US. The population has now risen to over 100,000 – approximately one in five San Franciscans.

Chinatown *(see pp96–100)* is still the city's most populated sector, and the heart of the Chinese community. Banks, schools and newspapers testify to its autonomy, which is as powerful today as it was when the first settlers arrived more than 150 years ago.

A young San Franciscan woman wearing Chinese costume

THE IRISH

In the late 1800s, thousands of Irish immigrants came to San Francisco and took what jobs they could find. Many worked as laborers on the huge steam shovels used to fill in the bayfront mudflats, while others joined the police and fire departments and rose to positions of authority. By the turn of the century, Irish labor leaders had become an effective force in the city. There is no readily identifiable Irish section of San Francisco, but Sunset and Richmond districts are packed with Irish bars, and the annual St. Patrick's Day parade *(see p48)* still draws a considerable crowd.

THE ITALIANS

The original Italians in San Francisco depended on fishing for their livelihood. Today's thriving North Beach is inhabited by descendants of the southern Italian fishermen who came to settle here in the late 1800s. The early immigrants to the area were mostly from the city of Genoa, the birthplace of

Christopher Columbus, after whom North Beach's main avenue is named.

By the turn of the century, the Sicilians had become the major force in the area. In the 1940s, Italians were the predominant foreign-born group in the city, with some 60,000 living and working in the lively North Beach area alone.

Descendants of the families who owned and operated the fleet at Fisherman's Wharf set up shops and small businesses here. The businesses prospered after World War II, and many families moved to the suburbs in the 1950s and '60s. However they often return to "Little Italy" to patronize the excellent Italian cafés and restaurants that still flourish in the area.

An Afro-Caribbean street stall selling sweet potatoes and yams

THE AFRICAN-AMERICANS

Although black people have played an important role throughout San Francisco's history, the city's large African-American community is a relatively recent phenomenon. In the 1930s, fewer than 5,000 blacks lived in San Francisco. Thousands more came to work in the factories and shipyards during World War II, increasing the black population tenfold. Some settled in areas made available by the relocation of Japanese-Americans to internment camps, others in newer communities near the shipyards in Hunters Point.

THE RUSSIANS

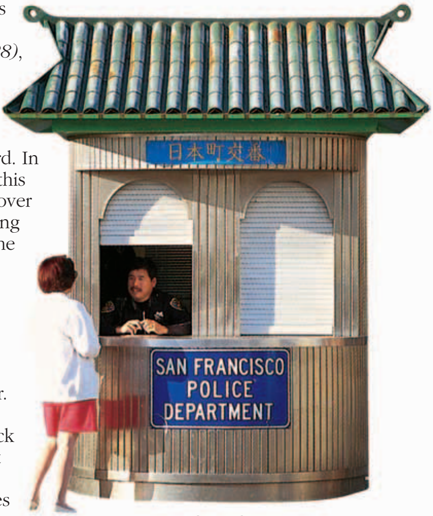
The first trappers and fur traders from Russia visited the bay during the early 1800s. Russian Hill is named after a party of Siberian sailors thought to be buried there. Russians established a successful though short-lived colony at Fort Ross *(see p189)* 100 miles (160 km) north of the city, and many still live in San Francisco. Since 1921, five editions a week of the *Russian Times* have been published for the 25,000 Russians now concentrated in the Richmond District around the Orthodox Holy Virgin Cathedral *(see p63)*.

BYZANTIUM GALLERY
CROSSES LAMPS INCENSE

Sign outside a Russian shop in the Richmond District

THE JAPANESE

Japanese businesses were active during the 1980s property boom, buying and building many prestigious city center offices and hotels. Generally, however, the 15,000-strong Japanese community in San Francisco keeps a low profile. The exception is at the Japan Center *(see p128)*, a prominent cultural and shopping complex on Geary Boulevard. In the late 1930s, this area extended over 40 blocks. During World War II, the Japanese along the US West Coast were relocated to internment camps in the nation's interior. After the war, they drifted back to the area, but now the community occupies only six blocks.



A police *koban* (booth) in Japantown

THE MELTING POT

Other cultures are also represented in the city, but they are not as distinctly defined. Compared with New York or Los Angeles, the Jewish community in San Francisco is very small, but Jews have still wielded tremendous influence throughout the city's history.

Far Eastern cultures have also formed identifiable communities. Groups of Vietnamese and Cambodians live in the Tenderloin neighborhood, and significant populations of Koreans and Thais are scattered throughout the city.

Indians and Pakistanis have settled in the Bay Area of San Francisco, particularly in Berkeley and the "Silicon Valley" computer industry heartland of the South Bay.

Gay San Francisco: A History

The history of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community in San Francisco is in some ways the story of the gay movement itself. The city has been a mecca for gay people for much of its existence, and social and political gains made here have had reverberations across the globe. The community is now more diverse than ever, spread out across the entire city, not just the Castro *(see p136)*, and you can hold hands with your same-sex partner anywhere from the Financial District to Pacific Heights. This sense of freedom was a hard-won battle fought in the political arena of San Francisco.

BLACK
CAFE
Coca-Cola

The bohemian Black Cat Café, Montgomery Street, opened in 1933

THE EARLY DAYS: 1849–1960

The California Gold Rush of 1849 drew scores of adventurers to the Bay Area, and its rough-and-tumble atmosphere helped establish its reputation for sexual license. Life along the Barbary Coast offered freedom from the conservative mores of the rest of the country, and by the beginning of the 20th century the city was already being called "Sodom by the Sea."

During World War II, the city's gay population positively exploded. San Francisco was a main point of deployment and re-entry for troops, and gay soldiers had numerous "off-limits" bars and private gatherings to choose from. Also, for the first time in the military's history, homosexuals were being sought out and dishonorably discharged, and many of these men chose to settle in San Francisco rather than risk stigmatization back home.

The 1950s, however, heralded the real beginnings of a gay social consciousness, with the founding of several "homophile" organizations, which emphasized emotional rather than sexual components of same-gender coupling and advised assimilation within heterosexual society. Foremost among these groups were the Mattachine Society, which first advanced the idea of gay people as an oppressed minority, and the Daughters of Bilitis, the first lesbian socio-political organization in the United States.

GETTING ORGANIZED: 1960s–1970s

In the 1960s, police raids of gay gatherings were common, often resulting in public exposure of the arrested and affecting livelihoods. In 1961, José Sarria, a drag performer at the Black Cat Café, made history by running for the Board of Supervisors as an openly gay man. Although he wasn't elected, he proved there was a "gay vote" and inspired the founding of the Tavern Guild, the country's first gay business association.

Guests at the 1965 fundraising ball for the Council on Religion and the Homosexual (CRH) were harassed and photographed by police as they entered. The American Civil Liberties Union intervened, ultimately helping gays win legal support including a community police liaison officer.

Another pivotal event was New York's Stonewall riots in 1969. Once gay people had stood up to police, they were no longer content with mere acceptance. "Liberation" and "pride" became the move-

The colorful Gay Pride Parade celebrates the city's gay history, culture and community

TIMELINE

1948 Alfred Kinsey's groundbreaking Sexual Behaviour in the Human Male is published

1955 Daughters of Bilitis, the nation's first lesbian group, is formed

1970 First San Francisco Gay Pride Parade, called "Gay-In"

1974 First Castro Street Fair

2002 First purpose-built LGBT center opens

2008 The California Supreme Court overturns state's ban on same-sex marriage

1930 | 1940 | 1950 | 1960 | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 | 2020

1930s First gay bars appear, including artists' hangout, the Black Cat Café, and Mona's, a lesbian bar

1964 *Life* magazine article "Homosexuality in America" names San Francisco "the capital of the gay world"

1969 Police raid the Stonewall Inn in New York. Ensuing riots signal the start of the modern gay liberation movement

1981 First case of Kaposi's sarcoma (AIDS-related cancer)

2004 Mayor Newson allows same-sex marriages but these are later annulled ment's watchwords. Gays wanted not just equal treatment but also gay events, businesses, and organizations to thrive.

With the establishment of the Castro as a gay area, the community gained political force. In 1977, local shop owner Harvey Milk was elected to the Board of Supervisors, becoming the nation's first openly gay elected official. His tenure was cut short in 1978 when he and Mayor George Moscone were shot at City Hall by Dan White. This further fueled the political movement – when White was found guilty only of manslaughter and given a light sentence, the city rioted in what became known as "White Night."

THE PLAGUE YEARS: 1980s

After all the hard-won political gains of the previous decades, the community was decimated by a new adversary. In 1981, the first incidence of a rare form of cancer was reported and within months, word spread of a disease dubbed "the gay cancer." The disease was later named AIDS (Auto-Immune Deficiency Syndrome), which is caused by the HIV virus (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). The city's gay community became one of the hardest hit, with as many as half of the city's gay men infected with HIV. It also became a model in developing a response. People rapidly mobilized to establish education and prevention efforts and community-based services to care for people with AIDS. San Francisco also leapt to the forefront of research, establishing the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the UCSF Medical School.

San Francisco
A.I.D.S. FUND

The San Francisco AIDS Fund, now AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF), established in 1982

The right to a same-sex wedding is an ongoing political battle

RECOVERY: 1990–PRESENT

The 1990s were perhaps most marked by the increase in political clout for gay people, with the passage of domestic partnership laws, more gay politicians being elected, military policies on gays being challenged, and much more.

The AIDS epidemic bred new forms of participation in San Francisco's gay community and to some degree made it more cohesive. But the sheer numbers of members lost means that the community is once again redefining itself, this time with an influx of diverse young people whose sexual identities have been formed in a much more open society. In these days of same-sex on-screen kissing and prom dating, gender roles are more fluid, and there's less of a sense of urgency to sorting out the "rules" of sexuality.

That said, the politics of being gay are very much in the forefront, and were put famously on view by Mayor Gavin Newsom's attempt at legalizing same-sex marriage. Some 3,000 couples were wed at City Hall in February of 2004, a historic event broadcast around the world. The marriages were later invalidated by the courts, but it was clearly the opening salvo of an ongoing battle.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS, AND EVENTS

AIDS Candlelight Vigil
May, usually 3rd Sunday.
AIDS Walk San Francisco
July, date varies.
Tel *615-9255.*
Castro Street Fair
October, usually first Sunday.
Tel *841-1824.*
Folsom Street Fair
September, last Sunday.
Tel *777-3247.*
Last and main event for popular Leather Week. Not only for the leather and fetish community.
Gay Pride Month
June, various events, including Dyke March (last Saturday of the month).
Gay Pride Parade
June, last Sunday of the month.
Tel *864-0831.*
www.sfpride.org
Halloween
October 31.
Party along Market and Castro Streets. **Map** 10 D2.
Home for the Holidays
December 24. SF Gay Men's Chorus Christmas concert at the Castro Theatre *(see p136).*
Pink Saturday
June, Saturday evening before Pride March (men and women). Women's alternate Pride parade and party in the Castro.
SF International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival
June, usually ten days before Gay Pride Day.
Tel *703-8650.*
Up Your Alley Fair
July, last Sunday.
Tel *777-3247.* SoMa's Dore Street fair. **Map** 11 A2.

CONTACT INFORMATION

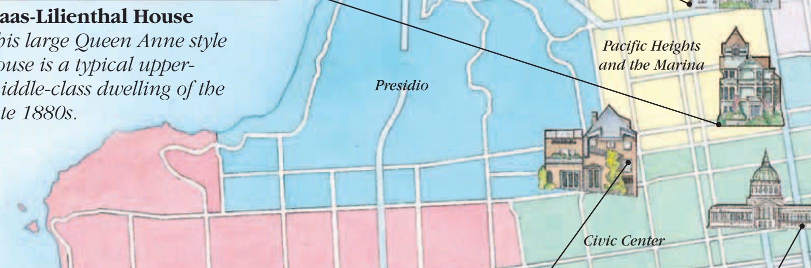
Betty's List
Tel *503-1375.*
www.bettyslist.com
Online community directory.
GLBT Historical Society
657 Mission Street. **Map** 6 D4.
Tel *777-5455.*
HIV/AIDS Hotline
Tel *863-2437.*
James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center
100 Larkin St. **Map** 11 A1.
Tel *557-4400.*
SF City Clinic
356 7th Street. **Map** 11 B2.
Tel *487-5500.*
STD testing/counseling.
SF LGBT Community Center
1800 Market Street. **Map** 10 E1.
Tel *865-5555.*
Sex Information Hotline
Tel *989-7374.*
Suicide Prevention Hotline
Tel *781-0500.*

San Francisco's Best: Architecture

Architectural highlights in San Francisco are mostly small-scale; the overall fabric, rather than specific buildings, lends the city its unique character. One memorable aspect is the wide variety of house styles, ranging from Arts and Crafts rustic chalets to grand Victorian mansions. Commercial buildings reflect a gamut of styles from Beaux Arts to Postmodern. This map gives some highlights, with a detailed overview on pages 46–7.

Octagon House
Octagonal houses were popular in the mid-1800s because they allowed in more sunlight than traditional Victorian designs.

Haas-Lilienthal House
This large Queen Anne style house is a typical upper-middle-class dwelling of the late 1880s.



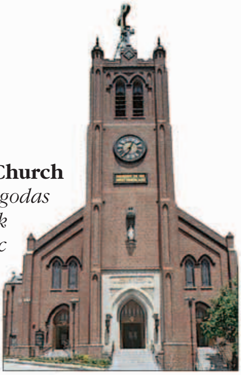
Pacific Heights and the Marina
Presidio
Civic Center
Golden Gate Park and Land's End
Haight Ashbury and the Mission
0 kilometers 2
0 miles 1

City Hall
Many of the city's civic buildings are examples of Classical Beaux Arts style.

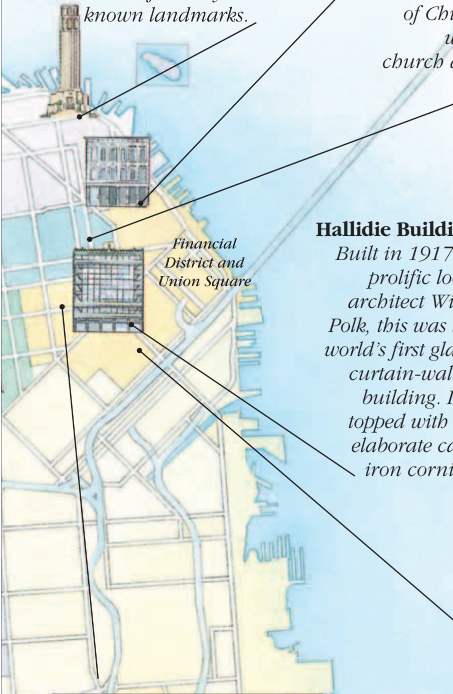
Goslinsky House
The charming Arts and Crafts style was popular at the turn of the century in San Francisco.

Coit Tower *(1934)*
The fluted column of Coit Tower on Telegraph Hill is one of the city's best known landmarks.

Hotaling Building *(1866)*
This Jackson Square edifice was the largest of many neighboring Gold Rush buildings to survive the 1906 earthquake. It was a whisky distillery and warehouse.



Old St. Mary's Church
Standing among the pagodas of Chinatown, the brick walls of this Gothic church date back to the Gold Rush.



Hallidie Building
Built in 1917 by prolific local architect Willis Polk, this was the world's first glass-curtain-walled building. It is topped with an elaborate cast-iron cornice.

Union Square
Before he built New York's famous Guggenheim Museum in 1959, architect Frank Lloyd Wright experimented with the use of ramps in this small Union Square shop.

MOMA
Built in 1995 at a cost of $60 million, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art is one of the largest modern art museums in the United States.

Exploring San Francisco's Architecture

Mission Dolores

Few structures survive from the Mission or Gold Rush eras, and the 1906 earthquake and fire destroyed many major Victorian buildings. As the city was rebuilt, architecture became a focus of civic pride, and grand Neo-Classical edifices in the Beaux Arts style embodied the city's resurgence. By the 1930s, the Financial District's office towers proclaimed its importance as the commercial center of the west. Engineering advances and soaring property values in the late 1960s gave rise to San Francisco's towering skyscrapers.

MISSION

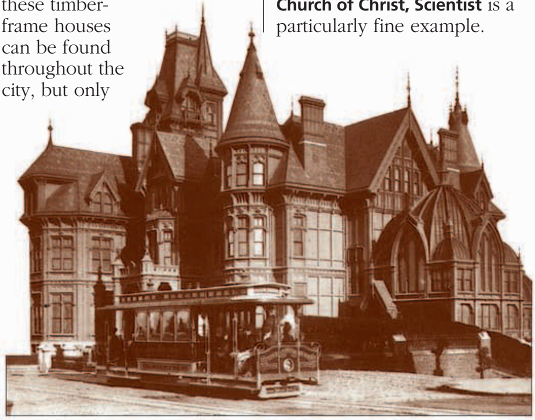
Between 1776 and 1823, Spanish missionaries employed American Indian laborers to construct seven missions and three fortresses, or "presidios," in the Bay Area. Known as the mission style, this architecture is characterized by thick walls of rough adobe bricks, red tile roofs and arcaded galleries surrounding courtyards. Fine examples of the style are **Mission Dolores**, San Francisco's oldest building, and the mission at **Carmel**.

GOLD RUSH

At the height of the Gold Rush, most buildings were only temporary, but as the population stabilized, fireproof brick was used. The best survivors from the time are preserved as part of **Jackson Square Historical District**. Particularly noteworthy examples include Hotaling's Warehouse and Distillery, which dates from the 1860s, with cast-iron pilasters and fireproof shutters, and three 1850s buildings on the 700 block of Montgomery Street.

VICTORIAN

The most distinctive aspect of the city's architecture is its array of Victorian houses with their elaborate ornamentation *(see pp76–7)*. Examples of these timber-frame houses can be found throughout the city, but only two are open to the public: **Haas-Lilienthal House** and **Octagon House**. Also worth a visit are the houses along the east side of **Alamo Square**, the group of well-preserved working-class cottages in **Cottage Row**, and **Clarke's Folly**, an elaborate 1892 Queen Anne-style "country house" now stranded in the cityscape.



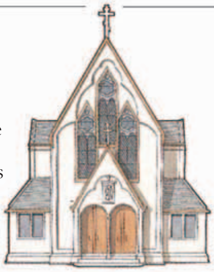
Victorian mansion built for Mark Hopkins on Nob Hill, destroyed in the fire that followed the 1906 earthquake

ARTS AND CRAFTS

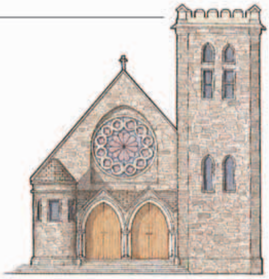
A more rustic, down-to-earth style was adopted after the turn of the century, inspired by the English Arts and Crafts movement. Architects used redwood and uncut stone, borrowing decorative Japanese motifs, to achieve a natural look. An entire block of Arts and Crafts houses surrounds Bernard Maybeck's **Goslinsky House** in Pacific Heights, and across the bay in Berkeley, his **Church of Christ, Scientist** is a particularly fine example.

RELIGIOUS ARCHITECTURE

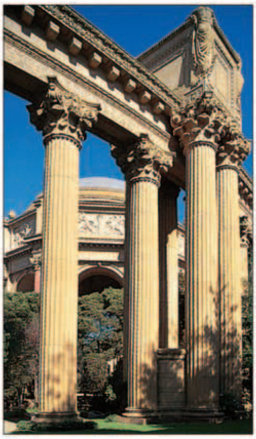
The architectural diversity of the city is most apparent in its churches. Since the first simple, white-walled and red-tile-roofed missions, the city's churches have been built in an array of styles from Gothic to Baroque with numerous hybrids in between. Many prominent churches were built during the eclectic Victorian era of the late 19th century, and their architectural styles reflect the traditions of the countries from which their congregations came.



St. Stephen's Lutheran
German Renaissance



First Unitarian Church
Gothic Revival



Beaux Arts style Palace of Fine Arts

BEAUX ARTS

The rigorously Neo-Classical style of the Parisian *Ecole des Beaux Arts* was favored by designers in San Francisco for major buildings following the 1906 earthquake. Opulent colonnades, sculptures and pediments are typical of this lavish style, which was readily adopted in a city eager to signal to the world its recovery from devastation.

The most perfect illustration of Beaux Arts style in the city is Bernard Maybeck's **Palace of Fine Arts**, built as the focus of the 1915 Panama–Pacific Exposition, and acclaimed as the city's most vibrant celebration of the art of architecture.

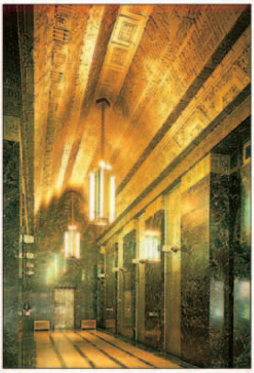
Other impressive examples surround Civic Center Plaza: the **City Hall** (Arthur Brown, 1915); the old **Main Library**, now the **Asian Art Museum** (George Kelham, 1915); the **War Memorial Opera House** and the **Veteran's Building** (both by Arthur Brown, 1932); and the oldest building in the Civic Center, the **Bill Graham Civic Auditorium** (John Galen Howard, 1915).

COMMERCIAL

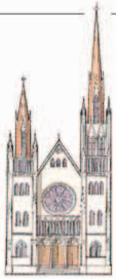
Two early office buildings that are of architectural significance are Willis Polk's **Hallidie Building** (1917), the world's first glass-curtain-walled structure, and his stately **Merchant's Exchange** (1906).

Timothy Pflueger's building at **450 Sutter Street** (1929) is a shining example of Art Deco design. Its lobby is beautifully detailed with red marble and embossed aluminum.

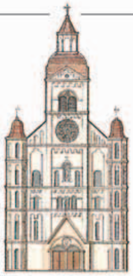
The **Union Square Frank Lloyd Wright Building** (Xanadu Gallery) was designed in 1949 by Wright. The interior spirals up to a mezzanine, while the façade is broken by an arched, tunnel-like entrance. The 853-ft (256-m) **Transamerica Pyramid** (William Pereira, 1972) is also a notable piece of commercial architecture.



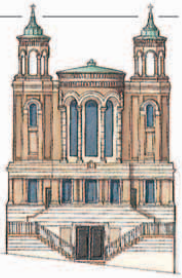
Highly ornate Art Deco lobby of 450 Sutter Street



St. Paulus
Gothic



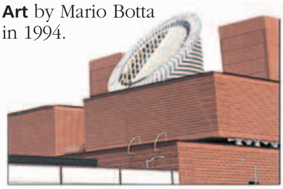
St. Boniface
Romanesque



Notre Dame des Victoires
Roman and Byzantine

CONTEMPORARY

A legacy of the 1980s real estate boom, the **Marriott Hotel** (Anthony Lumsden, 1989) is one of the city's most disliked buildings. The imaginative projects of the 1990s were more welcome, especially the **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts** designed by Fumihiko Maki (1993), and the **Museum of Modern Art** by Mario Botta in 1994.



The imaginative façade of the Museum of Modern Art

WHERE TO FIND THE BUILDINGS

Alamo Square *p129*
Asian Art Museum *p126*
Bill Graham Civic Auditorium *p126*
Carmel Mission *p187*
Center for the Arts *pp114–5*
Church of Christ, Scientist 2619 Dwight Way, Berkeley.
City Hall *p127*
Clarke's Folly *p139*
Cottage Row *p128*
First Unitarian Church 1187 Franklin St. **Map** 4 F4.
Goslinsky House 3233 Pacific Ave. **Map** 3 C3.
Haas-Lilienthal House *p72*
Hallidie Building 130–150 Sutter St. **Map** 5 C4.
Jackson Sq Historical District *p110*
Marriott Hotel *p215*
Merchant's Exchange *p112*
Mission Dolores *p137*
Museum of Modern Art *pp118–21*
Notre Dame des Victoires 564–66 Bush Street. **Map** 5 C4.
Octagon House *p75*
Palace of Fine Arts *pp60–61*
St. Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate Ave. **Map** 11 A1.
St. Paulus Lutheran Church 999 Eddy St. **Map** 4 F5.
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church 858–64 Fulton St. **Map** 4 E5.
450 Sutter St. **Map** 5 B4.
Transamerica Pyramid *p111*
Union Sq FL Wright Bldg *p45*
Veterans Building *p127*
War Memorial Opera House *p127*

SAN FRANCISCO THROUGH THE YEAR

Springtime in San Francisco sees a city awakening from winter slumbers, with leaves returning to the trees, and the last gray whales migrating north along the coast. By May and June the air is often warm, and windsurfers can be seen on the bay. In August, morning fog rolls in from the sea, but summer weather returns in September. Cool clear nights set in at the end of the year, with occasional snowfalls on Mount Diablo. The main annual events are listed below. For up-to-date information, the San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau *(see p278)*, provides a free calendar of year-round city events.

SPRING

Springtime is the season for long walks around San Francisco, wandering through the parks or along city center streets washed by overnight rains. In April, bulbs come into bloom in the parks and gardens, and wildflowers cover the headlands on either side of the Golden Gate. In May, thousands of runners join the Bay to Breakers race.

MARCH

St. Patrick's Day Parade *(Sun nearest Mar 17)*. The day is marked by a parade down Market St, and the bars are filled with merrymakers.

Bay Area Music Awards *(early–mid-Mar)*. Local musicians win special "Bammie" awards from their fans.

Colorful traditional costumes at the Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival

EASTER

Easter Sunrise Services. Thousands of worshipers gather at dawn in front of the huge cross on Mount Davidson, the highest hill in the city.

APRIL

Cherry Blossom Festival *(mid- to late Apr)*. This celebration of traditional Japanese arts and crafts attracts dancers, drummers, artists and craftspeople from all around the Bay Area. It takes place at the Japan Center *(see p128)*, where there are lively performances and a colorful parade.

San Francisco International Film Festival *(late Apr–early May)*. For two weeks there are screenings every day at the Kabuki *(see p262)*, and other theaters. American and international films are shown, many of them for the first time in the US.

Wildflower Walks. Guided walks are offered at various San Francisco natural areas by volunteers. Commercial guided tours are offered in the Marin Headlands *(see pp174–5)*.

Opening Day of Baseball Season *(late Apr–early May)*. Sports fans turn out to see their baseball heroes perform at AT&T Park and Oakland Coliseum.

Glittering Carnaval celebrations in the Mission District of San Francisco

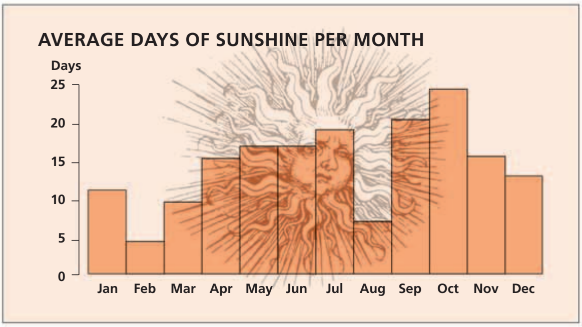
MAY

Bay to Breakers *(late May)*. Partly a serious race, partly a mad dash in funny costumes, contenders run 7.5 miles (12.5 km) from the Ferry Building to Ocean Beach *(see p153)*.

The Bay to Breakers run

Cinco de Mayo *(early May)*. Mexican cultural celebration, with a carnival in the Civic Center and special events in the Mission District.

Carnaval SF *(last weekend)*. Latin American and Caribbean festival in the Mission District, with salsa and reggae bands.



Sunshine Chart
The sunniest months in San Francisco are September and October. In mid-summer almost everywhere else in the Bay Area is both warmer and sunnier. The Napa Valley (see pp190–93) *and other inland valleys are baking hot and dry.*

SUMMER

Mark Twain is said to have commented that the coldest winter he ever spent was a summer in San Francisco. June and July see the city besieged by tourists from all over the world, who often complain about the "cold" that can ruin their otherwise perfect days.

Golden Gate Bridge in fog

FOGGY DAYS

Afternoon and evening fogs are common in San Francisco during the summer months. They form far out over the sea and roll in through the Golden Gate, shrouding parts of the city with a cold, damp cloud. These fogs are sometimes so dense that they can cause the temperature to fall by as much as 20° F (10° C) in a matter of hours.

JUNE

Lesbian and Gay Pride Day *(Sun in late Jun).* The biggest show in San Francisco and the largest of its kind in the US – more than 300,000 people every year attend the Market St parade and Civic Center celebrations.
Haight Street Fair *(Sat or Sun in late Jun).* Bands play, and there are food stalls along Haight St *(see p134).*
North Beach Festival *(mid Jun).* Arts and crafts, bands and food stalls in the Italian district on Grant Ave, Green St and Washington Sq.

Juneteenth *(late Jun).* African-American cultural celebration, with jazz and blues bands along Oakland's Lake Merritt *(see p164).*

JULY

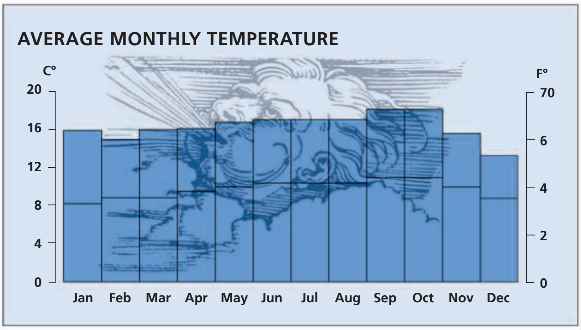
4th of July Fireworks *(Jul 4).* Held along the waterfront at Crissy Field National Recreation Area *(see p59),* American Independence Day is celebrated with a spectacular pyrotechnic display at Golden Gate Bridge.
San Francisco Marathon *(late Jul).* 3,500 athletes race around the city, starting at Golden Gate Bridge.

Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade to the Civic Center

AT&T Park is home to the San Francisco Giants baseball team

AUGUST

Baseball *(season Apr–Sep).* San Francisco Giants (AT&T Park) and Oakland Athletics (Network Associates Coliseum) play games throughout the summer *(see p272).* Tickets are usually available on the day of play, although the best seats sell out in advance.
San Francisco Playwright's Festival *(last week Jul–first week Aug).* Fort Mason Center *(see pp74–5).* Readings, workshops and performances of new works. Audiences can discuss the performances with the artists at special sessions.



Temperature Chart
The chart shows the average minimum and maximum temperatures for each month. San Francisco and the Bay area enjoy mild weather all year round, with temperatures seldom rising above 70° F (21° C) or falling below 40° F (4° C).

FALL

San Franciscans reclaim their city from the visitors in September, just as the Bay Area summer begins. Many outdoor festivities and cultural events take place in the parks and on the streets, while the football, opera and symphony seasons all open in the fall.

49ers game season starts September

SEPTEMBER

49ers and Raiders Football *(season begins Sep).* Various arenas. To December, or January if teams are in the playoffs *(see p272).*
San Francisco's Opera Opening Night. This glamorous gala event launches the San Francisco opera season which runs from September through December. It is a formal black-tie ball held at War Memorial Opera House, Van Ness Ave *(see p264).*
Fringe Festival *(early to mid-Sep).* The city celebrates its theater culture with a series of alternative performances ranging from the intensely dramatic to the mildly absurd.
Valley of the Moon Vintage Festival *(late Sep).* California's oldest wine festival takes place at Sonoma Plaza, Sonoma.
Folsom Street Fair *(last Sun).* Predominantly gay and lesbian event between 11th and 17th Streets. Music, comedy, dancing, crafts, and beer garden. All proceeds from the fair are donated to charity.

OCTOBER

Castro Street Fair *(first Sun).* One of the city's largest and longest-running street celebrations *(see p136).*
Columbus Day Parade *(Sun nearest Oct 12).* Pageant and procession down Columbus Ave in North Beach, finishing at Fisherman's Wharf.
Halloween *(Oct 31).* The autumn night is celebrated by thousands of revelers dressed in costume all converging on Market St. and Castro St. Though no longer sanctioned by the city, many die-hards still take part.
Shakespeare in the Park *(Sats and Suns from Labor Day).* Free performances in Golden Gate Park *(see p259).* A temporary outdoor theater is erected in Liberty Meadow especially for the event.

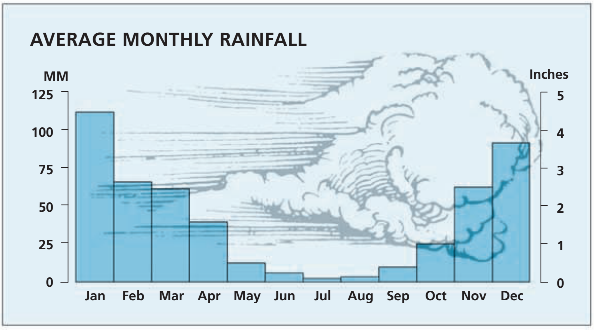
Columbus Day Parade

Fleet Week *(early Oct).* A celebration of the US Navy. Aerial displays by the Blue Angels; naval vessels gather near Golden Gate Bridge.
Harvest Festival and Christmas Crafts Market *(late Oct to mid-Nov).* Popular crafts fair on two weekends.

NOVEMBER

Dia de los Muertos/Day of the Dead *(Nov 2).* Mexican Halloween, marked by a nighttime procession through the Mission District. Costumes, dances, Halloween food.
San Francisco Jazz Festival *(late Oct–early Nov).* All-star jazz festival *(p266).*
The Big Game *(third Sat).* Major university football event when California Golden Bears play Stanford Cardinal, alternately at Stanford and UC Berkeley *(see p272).*
International Auto Show *(late Nov)* is now held at the Moscone Center *(see pp114–15).*

Day of the Dead procession



Rainfall Chart
The average annual rainfall for San Francisco is about 19 in (122 cm). Most rain falls from November to March, sometimes for days at a time, and there are often torrential storms. The driest months are May to September.

WINTER

The Christmas shopping season starts the day after Thanksgiving with the lighting of the Union Square tree, while appealing pets appear in the windows of Gump's store *(see p120)*. Families of gray whales pass on their annual migration between Alaska and Mexico.

DECEMBER

Christmas Displays in Union Square store windows *(see p116)* compete to be the best.
The Nutcracker *(3rd week)* is performed by the San Francisco Ballet at the War Memorial Opera House *(see p264)*.
Sing-It-Yourself Messiah *(early Dec)* at Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall *(see p126)*. Audience performs under the direction of various conductors.
Sing for your Life *(Dec 30–31)*. 24 hours of singing in Grace Cathedral *(see p103)*.

Chinese New Year celebrations in Chinatown

JANUARY

New Year's Day Swim *(Jan 1)*. Sponsored swim at Aquatic Park *(see pp172–3)*.
Russian Orthodox Christmas *(Jan 7–8)*. Ceremony in Holy Virgin Cathedral *(see p63)*.
Gray Whale Migration *(Jan–Apr)*. Watch from the coast, or take a boat *(see p272)*.

FEBRUARY

Black History Month. African-American events take place throughout the city.
Chinese New Year Parade *(date varies, usually early Feb)*. Parade through Financial District and Chinatown featuring a colorful dragon *(see pp94–100 and 107–121)*.

Christmas tree and decorations in Nieman Marcus department store

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

New Year's Day (Jan 1)
Martin Luther King Day (3rd Mon in Jan)
President's Day (3rd Mon in Feb)
Memorial Day (last Mon in May)
Independence Day (Jul 4)
Labor Day (1st Mon in Sep)
Columbus Day (2nd Mon in Oct)
Election Day (1st Tue in Nov)
Veterans Day (Nov 11)
Thanksgiving Day (4th Thu in Nov)
Christmas Day (Dec 25)

SAN FRANCISCO AREA BY AREA

THE 49-MILE SCENIC DRIVE 54–55

PRESIDIO 56–67

PACIFIC HEIGHTS AND THE MARINA 68–77

FISHERMAN'S WHARF AND NORTH BEACH 78–93

CHINATOWN AND NOB HILL 94–105

FINANCIAL DISTRICT AND UNION SQUARE 106–121

CIVIC CENTER 122–129

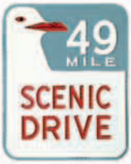
HAIGHT ASHBURY AND THE MISSION 130–141

GOLDEN GATE PARK AND LAND'S END 142–157

FARTHER AFIELD 158–169

FIVE GUIDED WALKS 170–181

The 49-Mile Scenic Drive

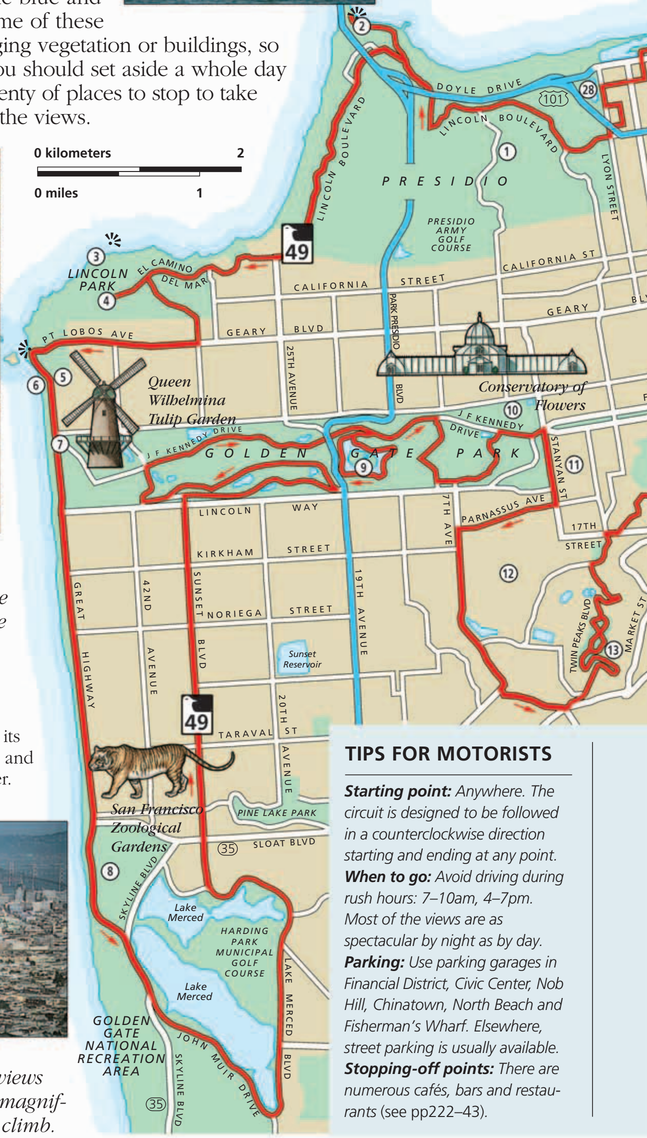

49
MILE
SCENIC
DRIVE

Official sign

Linking the city's most intriguing neighborhoods, fascinating sights and spectacular views, the 49-Mile Scenic Drive (79 km) provides a splendid overview of San Francisco for the determined motorist. Keeping to the well-marked route is simple enough – just follow the blue-and-white seagull signs. Some of these are hidden by overhanging vegetation or buildings, so you need to be alert. You should set aside a whole day for this trip; there are plenty of places to stop to take photographs or admire the views.

Marina Green ㉗
This is an excellent vantage point from which to view or photograph Golden Gate Bridge.

The Palace of Fine Arts and the **Exploratorium** ㉘ stand near the entrance to the wooded Presidio.


0 kilometers 2
0 miles 1
DOYLE DRIVE
101
LINCOLN BOULEVARD
PRESIDIO
PRESIDIO ARMY GOLF COURSE
LYON STREET
CALIFORNIA ST
CALIFORNIA STREET
GEARY BLVD
PARK PRESIDIO BLVD
49
LINCOLN PARK
EL CAMINO DEL MAR
PT LOBOS AVE
25TH AVENUE
Queen Wilhelmina Tulip Garden
Conservatory of Flowers
J F KENNEDY DRIVE
GOLDEN GATE PARK
STANYAN ST
PARNASSUS AVE
17TH STREET
7TH AVE
LINCOLN WAY
KIRKHAM STREET
NORIEGA STREET
SUNSET BLVD
42ND AVENUE
GREAT HIGHWAY
19TH AVENUE
Sunset Reservoir
TWIN PEAKS BLVD
MARKET ST
TARAVAL ST
20TH AVENUE
PINE LAKE PARK
SLOAT BLVD
35
San Francisco Zoological Gardens
SKYLINE BLVD
Lake Merced
HARDING PARK MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE
LAKE MERCED BLVD
JOHN MUIR DRIVE
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
28

Stow Lake ⑨
There is a waterfall and a Chinese pavilion on the island in this picturesque lake. Boats are for rent.

San Francisco Zoological Gardens ⑧ is one of the six best zoos in the US. Among its attractions are Gorilla World and the Primate Discovery Center.

Twin Peaks ⑬
From both summits, the views over the city and bay are magnificent and well worth the climb.

TIPS FOR MOTORISTS

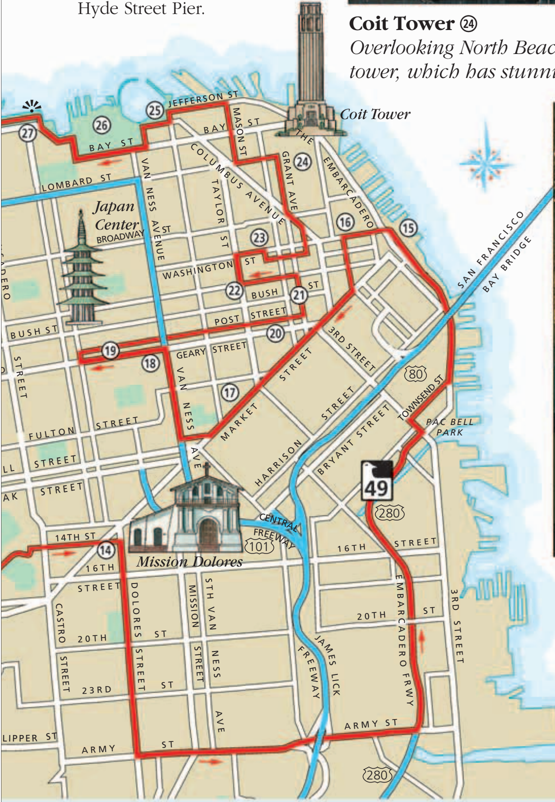
Starting point: *Anywhere. The circuit is designed to be followed in a counterclockwise direction starting and ending at any point.*
When to go: *Avoid driving during rush hours: 7–10am, 4–7pm. Most of the views are as spectacular by night as by day.*
Parking: *Use parking garages in Financial District, Civic Center, Nob Hill, Chinatown, North Beach and Fisherman's Wharf. Elsewhere, street parking is usually available.*
Stopping-off points: *There are numerous cafés, bars and restaurants* (see pp222–43).

◁ **A view of the Transamerica Pyramid Building**

Civic Center ⑰ is the stately official and administrative heart of San Francisco, where imposing Beaux Arts buildings surround a central plaza.

Maritime National Historic Park Visitor Center ㉕ has a fine collection of ship models, photographs and relics, with many historic ships moored nearby at Hyde Street Pier.

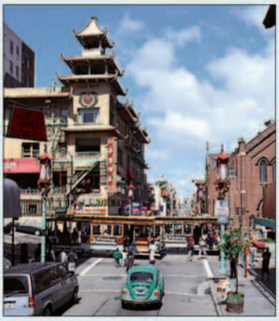
Coit Tower ㉔
Overlooking North Beach, Telegraph Hill is topped by this tower, which has stunning murals and a viewing terrace.


Coit Tower
JEFFERSON ST
BAY ST
MASON ST
BAY ST
LOMBARD ST
COLUMBUS AVENUE
TAYLOR ST
GRANT AVE
THE EMBARCADERO
Japan Center
BROADWAY ST
VAN NESS AVENUE
WASHINGTON ST
BUSH ST
POST STREET
BUSH ST
GEARY STREET
STREET
VAN NESS AVE
FULTON STREET
STREET
STREET
MARKET STREET
3RD STREET
SAN FRANCISCO BAY BRIDGE
80
TOWNSEND ST
PAC BELL PARK
STREET
BRYANT STREET
HARRISON
49
280
CENTRAL FREEWAY
101
Mission Dolores
14TH ST
16TH STREET
16TH STREET
CASTRO STREET
DOLORES STREET
MISSION STREET
S. VAN NESS AVE
20TH ST
20TH ST
23RD ST
JAMES LICK FREEWAY
EMBARCADERO FRWY
3RD STREET
ARMY ST
ARMY ST
LIPPER ST
280
㉕ ㉖ ㉗ ㉔ ⑯ ⑮ ㉓ ㉒ ㉑ ⑳ ⑲ ⑱ ⑰ ⑭

Ferry Building ⑮
This building with its distinctive 230-ft (70-m) tower survived the 1906 earthquake intact.

KEY

▬	49-Mile Scenic Drive
✲	Viewing point



Grant Avenue in San Francisco's Chinatown *(see p99)*

FINDING THE SIGHTS

① Presidio *p62*
② Fort Point *p62*
③ Land's End *p157*
④ Legion of Honor *p156*
⑤ Sutro Heights Park *p157*
⑥ Cliff House *p157*
⑦ Queen Wilhelmina Tulip Garden *p153*
⑧ San Francisco Zoological Gardens *p160*
⑨ Stow Lake *p152*
⑩ Conservatory of Flowers *p152*
⑪ Haight Street *p134*
⑫ Sutro Tower *p139*
⑬ Twin Peaks *p139*
⑭ Mission Dolores *p137*
⑮ Ferry Building *p112*
⑯ Embarcadero Center *p110*
⑰ Civic Center *pp126–7*
⑱ St Mary's Cathedral *p128*
⑲ Japan Center *p128*
⑳ Union Square *p116*
㉑ Chinatown Gateway *p98*
㉒ Grace Cathedral *p103*
㉓ Cable Car Barn *p103*
㉔ Coit Tower *p93*
㉕ Maritime National Historic Park Visitor Center *p83*
㉖ Fort Mason *pp74–5*
㉗ Marina Green *p75*
㉘ Palace of Fine Arts and the Exploratorium *pp60–61*

PRESIDIO

This beautiful wooded corner of the city has stunning views over both Golden Gate Bridge and the mouth of San Francisco Bay. First established as an outpost of Spain's New World empire in 1776, the Presidio was, for many years, the site of an army base. But in 1994 its ownership passed to the National Park Service and it is now an area of contrasting attractions: visitors may take in Civil War gun sites, and parade grounds and barracks from the 19th century, or enjoy an invigorating stroll through miles of forest land. The area is planted with pine and eucalyptus trees, and is a wildlife haven. You can reach Baker Beach via the park, and a notable landmark, the Palace of Fine Arts, lies to the east.

Cannon at Fort Point

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Historic Streets and Buildings

Clement Street ❽
Golden Gate Bridge pp64–7 ❺
Palace of Fine Arts and the Exploratorium pp60–61 ❶
Presidio Officers' Club ❸

Museums and Galleries

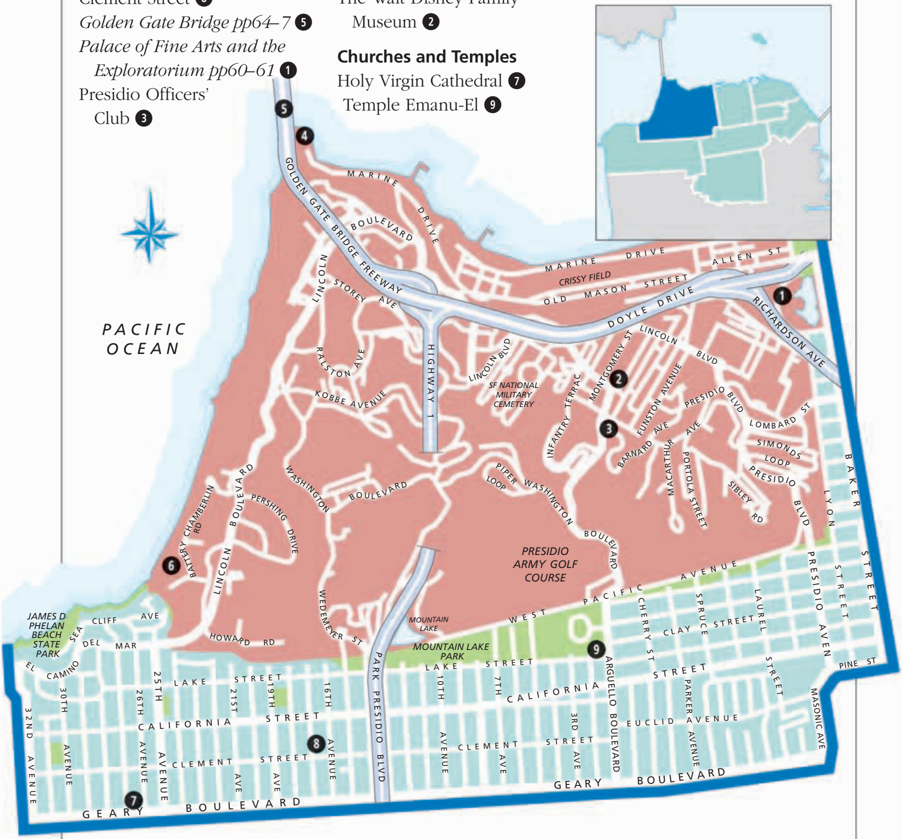
Fort Point and Crissy Field ❹
The Walt Disney Family Museum ❷

Churches and Temples

Holy Virgin Cathedral ❼
Temple Emanu-El ❾

Parks and Gardens

Baker Beach ❻



PACIFIC OCEAN
GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE FREEWAY
MARINE DRIVE
BOULEVARD
LINCOLN
STOREY AVE
HIGHWAY 1
RALSTON AVE
KOBBE AVENUE
LINCOLN BLVD
SF NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERY
MARINE DRIVE
CRISSY FIELD
OLD MASON STREET
ALLEN ST
DOYLE DRIVE
RICHARDSON AVE
LINCOLN BLVD
MONTGOMERY ST
TERRAC
INFANTRY
FUNSTON AVENUE
PRESIDIO BLVD
LOMBARD ST
SIMONDS LOOP
PRESIDIO BLVD
BARNARD AVE
MACARTHUR AVE
PORTOLA STREET
SIBLEY RD
BAKER
LYON
WASHINGTON
BOULEVARD
PIPER LOOP
WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
BATTERY CHAMBERLIN RD
BOULEVARD
LINCOLN
PERSHING DRIVE
PRESIDIO ARMY GOLF COURSE
WEDEMEYER ST
MOUNTAIN LAKE
MOUNTAIN LAKE PARK
PARK PRESIDIO BLVD
WEST PACIFIC AVENUE
JAMES D PHELAN BEACH STATE PARK
SEA CLIFF AVE
EL CAMINO DEL MAR
HOWARD RD
LAKE STREET
CALIFORNIA STREET
CLEMENT STREET
GEARY BOULEVARD
32ND AVENUE
30TH AVENUE
26TH AVENUE
25TH AVENUE
21ST AVE
19TH AVE
16TH AVENUE
10TH AVENUE
7TH AVE
3RD AVE
ARGUELLO BOULEVARD
CHERRY ST
SPRUCE STREET
CLAY STREET
LAUREL STREET
PRESIDIO AVENUE
STREET
PINE ST
PARKER AVENUE
EUCLID AVENUE
MASONIC AVE
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9

0 meters 750

0 yards 750

KEY

🟥 Street-by-Street map
See pp58–9

GETTING THERE

The area is best seen by car or bicycle, though Muni bus 29 stops at the main sights. Bus 43 from Haight Ashbury serves the eastern end, and the 28 runs along the northern boundary.

◁ **Golden Gate Bridge from Baker Beach**

A Tour of the Presidio

Presidio Park sign

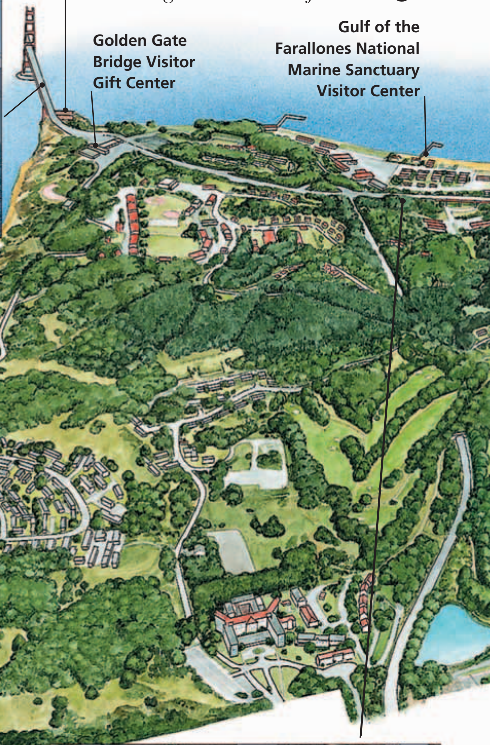
The Presidio's lush landscaping belies its long military history. This site has played a key role in San Francisco's growth, and has been occupied longer than any other part of the city. Remnants of its military past, including barracks, can be seen everywhere, and there are 24 miles (39 km) of hiking trails, cycle paths, and beaches. A free shuttle operates within the park, stopping at 40 destinations. Golden Gate Bridge crosses the bay from the northwest corner of the Presidio.

Fort Point

This impressive brick fortress, now a national historic site, guarded the Golden Gate during the Civil War of 1861–5 ❹

★ Golden Gate Bridge

Opened in 1937, the bridge has a center span of 4,200 ft (1,280 m) ❺



Golden Gate Bridge Visitor Gift Center

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Visitor Center

Marine Drive is a waterfront road, lined with palm trees.

Coastal Trail start

Lobos Creek is a small stream that provides the Presidio with drinking water.

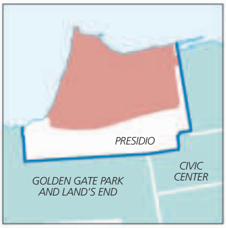
Baker Beach

The Presidio's western edge harbors the surf and sand of Baker Beach, one of the best of the city's beaches ❻

MR. TWISTER
MACARONI HEART
JERRY
RASPBERRY

The Pet Cemetery was once used to bury army guard dogs. Since 1945 it has been the final resting place for family pets.

Crissy Field, reclaimed from marshland for the 1915 Pan–Pacific Exposition, was used as an airfield from 1919–36. It is now a National Recreation Area.

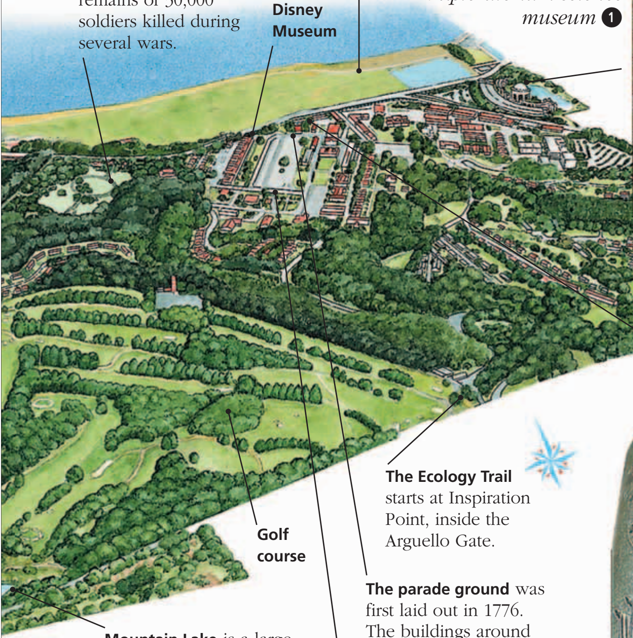


LOCATOR MAP
See Street Finder, map 1

★ Palace of Fine Arts and the Exploratorium
Conceived as a Roman ruin, the palace now houses the Exploratorium science museum ①

San Francisco National Cemetery holds the remains of 30,000 soldiers killed during several wars.

Disney Museum



The Ecology Trail starts at Inspiration Point, inside the Arguello Gate.

Golf course

The parade ground was first laid out in 1776. The buildings around it include barracks from the 1880s and Civil War officers' quarters.

Mountain Lake is a large spring-fed lake. The original Presidio was established nearby in 1776.

Captured Cannon
This 19th-century cannon from the Spanish–American War is still on the grounds.

Presidio Officers' Club

0 meters 500

0 yards 500

Presidio Officers' Club
Built over the old remains of the old Spanish Presidio, this club is closed for renovation until 2013 ③

STAR SIGHTS

- ★ Palace of Fine Arts
- ★ Golden Gate Bridge

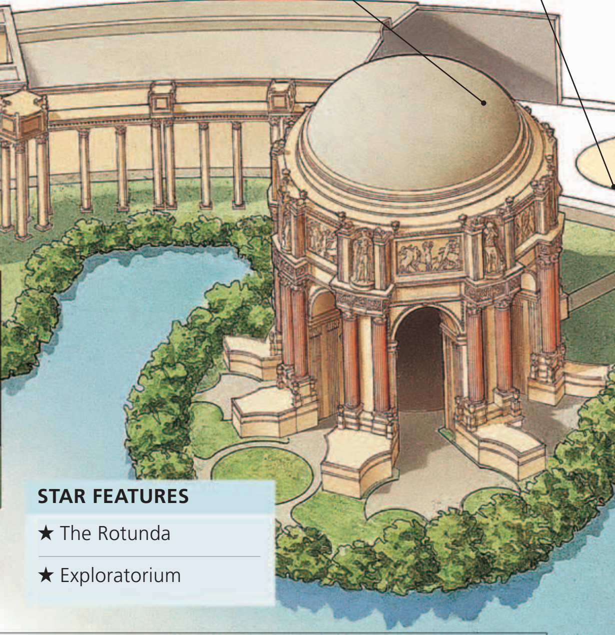
Palace of Fine Arts and the Exploratorium ❶

Sole survivor of the many grandiose monuments built as part of the 1915 Panama–Pacific Exposition *(see pp30–31)*, the Neo-Classical Palace of Fine Arts was an Expo centerpiece. Inside the Palace is the Exploratorium, one of the most engaging science museums in the US. Established in 1969 by Frank Oppenheimer, whose brother Robert led the development of the atom bomb, it has hundreds of interactive exhibits, a webcast studio, and a microscope imaging station.

Detail from the base of the Rotunda

★ The Rotunda
The dome of the Rotunda is supported by an octagonal arcade.

Mind
This area is devoted to attention, emotion, and judgment.



Classical Detail
Corinthian columns and relief sculpture are an attractive backdrop to the gardens.

STAR FEATURES

- ★ The Rotunda
- ★ Exploratorium

BUILDING THE PALACE OF FINE ARTS

The beautiful Palace of Fine Arts is one of San Francisco's most prominent pieces of architecture. Designed by the noted Bay Area architect Bernard R. Maybeck, this landmark structure is composed of a central rotunda on the edge of a landscaped lagoon, flanked by an open-air peristyle of intricately detailed Corinthian columns. Intended as a melancholic evocation of vanquished grandeur, it was inspired by Piranesi's Baroque etchings and by *L'Isle des Morts*, a painting by the well-known Swiss artist Arnold Böcklin.

Bernard Maybeck

Since it was not supposed to last beyond the end of the 1915 Exposition, the Palace of Fine Arts was originally constructed of inexpensive wood and plaster, at a total cost of $700,000. After being spared demolition, the fabric of the structure was left to crumble gracefully until 1962, when it was rebuilt using reinforced concrete.

The Palace of Fine Arts in a state of severe decay

Seeing
Learn about optical illusions and investigate how eyes work.

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

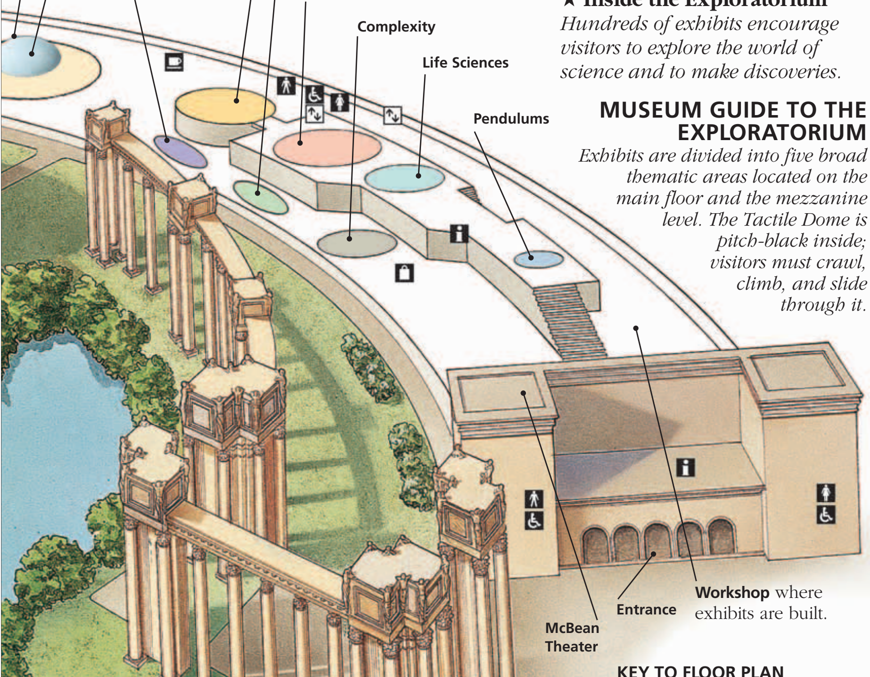
3601 Lyon St, Marina District. **Map** 3 C2. 🚌 *22, 29, 30, 43, 45, 47, 49.* **Exploratorium** ☎ *561-0360.* **Tactile Dome** ***Tel*** *561-0362.* ○ *10am–5pm Tue–Sun, holiday Mondays (advance booking recommended).* ● *Thanksgiving, Dec 25.* 🎟 *free first Wed of month.* ♿ ☕ 🛍
www.exploratorium.edu

Motion
In this area visitors can choose a winning wheel in Downhill Race or try the thrilling Momentum Machine.

★ Inside the Exploratorium
Hundreds of exhibits encourage visitors to explore the world of science and to make discoveries.

MUSEUM GUIDE TO THE EXPLORATORIUM

Exhibits are divided into five broad thematic areas located on the main floor and the mezzanine level. The Tactile Dome is pitch-black inside; visitors must crawl, climb, and slide through it.


Electricity and Magnetism
Heat and Temperature, Patterns
Tactile Dome
Sound and Hearing
Complexity
Life Sciences
Pendulums
McBean Theater
Entrance

Workshop where exhibits are built.

Colored Shadows
Whenever your shadow blocks one color, the two other primary colors combine in a new color.

KEY TO FLOOR PLAN

- 🟨 Seeing
- 🟪 Motion
- 🟧 Electricity and Magnetism
- 🟩 Heat and Temperature, Patterns
- 🟦 Life Sciences
- 🟥 Sound and Hearing
- ⬜ Complexity
- 🟦 Pendulums

Palace of Fine Arts and the Exploratorium ❶

See pp60–61.

Historic barracks on the Presidio

The Walt Disney Family Museum ❷

104 Montgomery Street. **Map** 3 A2. ***Tel*** *345-6800.* ○ *10am–6pm Wed–Mon.* ● *Jan 1, July 4, Thanksgiving, Dec 25.* ✋ **www**.waltdisney.org

Opened in 2009, this museum documents the life and achievements of Walt Disney. A series of ten interactive galleries incorporate film clips, storyboards and scripts to tell the story of the man and his amazing career. Visitors will find Hollywood's first feature length animated film and early drawings of Mickey Mouse alongside exhibits dedicated to Disney's home life including photographs and home movies.

Presidio Officers' Club ❸

50 Moraga Ave. **Map** 3 A2. 🚌 *29.* ○ *9am–5pm daily.* ● *some public hols.*

Situated in the southwest corner of the Plaza de Armas, overlooking the parade grounds of the Presidio and the 19th-century barracks, the Officers' Club is built in the Spanish Mission style *(see p46)*. It dates from the 1930s, but incorporates the adobe (sun-dried brick) remains of the original 18th-century Spanish fort.

Fort Point and Crissy Field ❹

Marine Drive. **Map** 2 E1. ℹ *556-1693.* ○ *10am–5pm Thu–Mon.* 📷 ♿ *partial.*

Completed by the US Army in 1861, this fort was built partly to protect San Francisco Bay from any attack, and partly to defend ships carrying gold from California mines. It is the most prominent of the many fortifications constructed along the coast, and is a classic example of a pre-Civil War brick fortress. The building soon became obsolete, because its 10-ft-thick (3-m) brick walls would not have stood up to powerful modern weaponry. It was closed in 1900, never having come under attack.

The brickwork vaulting is extremely unusual for San Francisco, where the ready availability of good timber was an incentive to build wood-frame constructions. This may have saved the fort from collapse in the 1906 earthquake *(see pp28–9)*. It was nearly demolished in the 1930s to make way for the Golden Gate Bridge, but it survived and is now a good place from which to view the bridge. National Park Service rangers in Civil War costume conduct guided tours. A tidal marsh once covered the area called Crissy Field. After two centuries of military use, the Field was transformed into a waterfront park for recreation and education. The Crissy Field Center offers a rich array of programs including many geared toward kids, from wildlife treks to kite-flying.

Cannon in the courtyard of Fort Point

Golden Gate Bridge ❺

See pp64–7.

Golden Gate Bridge seen from Baker Beach

Baker Beach ❻

Map 2 D4. ○ *dawn–dusk daily.*

Baker Beach is the largest and most popular stretch of sand in the city and is often crowded with sunbathers. The chilly water and strong currents make it a dangerous place to swim, but it is a fine place to go for a walk. Fishing is also good here. There are forests of pine and cypress on the bluffs above the beach, where visitors can explore Battery Chamberlin, a gun emplacement from 1904. On the first weekend of each month rangers show the "disappearing gun," a heavy rifle that can be lowered behind a thick wall to protect it from enemy fire, and then raised again in order to be fired.

Holy Virgin Cathedral ❼

6210 Geary Blvd. **Map** 8 D1.
☎ *221-3255.* 🚌 *2, 29, 38.* ✝ *8am and 6pm daily.* **www**.sfsobor.com

Shining gold onion-shaped domes crown the Russian Orthodox Holy Virgin Cathedral of the Russian Church in Exile, a startling landmark in the suburban Richmond District. Built in the early 1960s, it is generally open only during services. In contrast to those of many other Christian denominations, the services here are conducted with the congregation standing, so there are no pews or seats.

The cathedral and the many Russian-owned businesses nearby, such as the lively Russian Renaissance restaurant, are situated at the heart of San Francisco's extensive Russian community *(see p41)*. This has flourished since the 1820s, but expanded greatly when more immigrants arrived after the Russian Revolution of 1917, and especially in the late 1950s and late 1980s.

The Russian Orthodox Holy Virgin Cathedral

Clement Street ❽

Map 1 C5. 🚌 *2, 28, 29, 44.*

This is the bustling main thoroughfare of the otherwise sleepy Richmond District. Bookshops and small boutiques flourish here, and the inhabitants of the neighborhood meet together in a lively mix of bars, fast-food cafés and ethnic restaurants. Most of these are patronized more by locals than by tourists. Clement Street is surrounded by an area known as New Chinatown, home to more than one-third of the Chinese population of San Francisco. As a result, some of the city's best Chinese restaurants can be found here, and the emphasis in general is on East Asian cuisine. However, the area is known for the diversity of its restaurants, and Peruvian, Russian and French establishments, among many others, also flourish here. The street stretches from Arguello Boulevard to the north-south cross-streets which are known as "The Avenues." It ends near the Legion of Honor *(see pp156–7)*.

Interior of Temple Emanu-El, showing Holy Ark

Temple Emanu-El ❾

Lake St and Arguello Blvd. **Map** 3 A4. ***Tel*** *751-2535.* ○ *guided tours only; available 1–3pm Tue–Thu.* ♿ **www**.emanuelsf.org

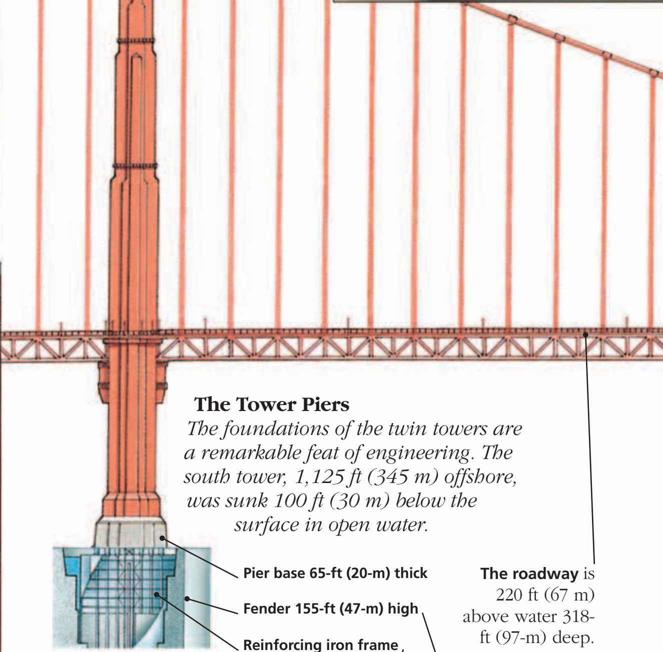
After World War I hundreds of Jews from Russia and Eastern Europe moved into the Richmond District and built religious centers that are still major landmarks. Among these is the Temple Emanu-El, its dome inspired by that of the 6th-century Santa Sophia in Istanbul. The temple is a majestic piece of architecture. It was built in 1925 for the city's longest-established Jewish congregation (which was founded in 1850). The architect was Arthur Brown, who also designed San Francisco's City Hall *(see p125)*. With its red-tiled dome, Emanu-El is a Californian architectural hybrid, combining the local Mission style *(see p46)* with Byzantine ornament and Romanesque arcades. Its interior, which holds nearly 2,000 worshipers, is especially fine when bright sunlight shines through the earth-toned stained-glass windows.

Golden Gate Bridge ❺

Bridge builder wearing protective mask

Named after the entrance to the part of San Francisco Bay called "Golden Gate" by John Fremont in 1844, the bridge opened in 1937, connecting San Francisco with Marin County. Breathtaking views are offered from this spectacular, world-famous landmark, which has six lanes for vehicles, plus a free pedestrian walkway. It is the world's ninth-largest suspension bridge and, when it was built, it was the longest suspension structure.

The length of the bridge is 1.7 miles (2.7 km), with a center span of 4,200 ft (1,280 m).


Pier base 65-ft (20-m) thick
Fender 155-ft (47-m) high
Reinforcing iron frame

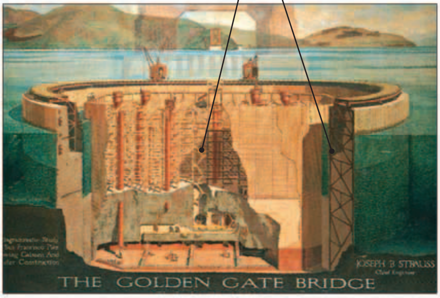
The Tower Piers

The foundations of the twin towers are a remarkable feat of engineering. The south tower, 1,125 ft (345 m) offshore, was sunk 100 ft (30 m) below the surface in open water.

The roadway is 220 ft (67 m) above water 318-ft (97-m) deep.

Divers

To reach bedrock when building the south tower, divers were employed to dynamite 20-ft (6-m) deep holes in the ocean floor.


THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE
JOSEPH B STRAUSS
Chief Engineer

The Concrete Fender

During construction, the south pier base was protected from the force of the tides by a fender of concrete. Water was then pumped out to create a watertight locker.

The Roadway
The roadway was constructed starting at the towers and extending toward mid-span, so weight on the suspension cables was evenly distributed.

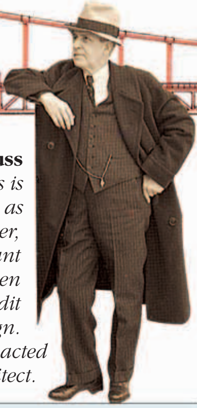
VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Map 2 E1. ***Tel*** *923-2000.* 🚌 *2, 4, 20, 28, 29, 34, 70, 76.* P 📷 ☕ 🛍 ○ *sunrise–sunset daily.* ♿ *observation area.* **Pedestrians/cyclists** *east walkway open daily, times vary.* **Toll Plaza** *collected southbound only, $6 for cars.* **www**.goldengate.org

BARRETT & HILP

Construction of the Towers
The twin steel towers rise to a height of 746 ft (227 m) above the water. The towers are hollow.

Catching the Hot Rivets
Working in gangs of four, one man heated the rivets and threw them to another, who caught them in a bucket. The other two fastened sections of steel with the hot rivets.



Joseph B. Strauss
Joseph B. Strauss is officially credited as the bridge's designer, though his assistant Charles Ellis has been given major credit for the span's design. Irving F. Morrow acted as consulting architect.

TIMELINE OF THE BRIDGE'S CONSTRUCTION

January Anchorages and San Francisco pier and trestle are started

October Work begins on towers

November San Francisco pier is finished

June Towers are complete

July First cable across Golden Gate

June Work ends on cables and starts on roadway

April Roadway is finished

1933 **1934** **1935** **1936** **1937**

December Part of trestle is destroyed by a ship

February Official groundbreaking

May Marin Tower is topped off

Marin Tower topping-off ceremony

June Earthquake shakes towers violently

March Last suspender rope in place

May Opening Day

February Last rivet is driven

The Opening of the Bridge

The bridge that most people said could never be built was completed on time and under budget in the midst of the Great Depression. Joseph B. Strauss finally won widespread support for the bridge, and a major bond issue financed its $35-million, four-year construction. When it opened, every siren and church bell in San Francisco and Marin sounded simultaneously as part of a huge celebration.

Opening Day Crowd
On May 27, 1937, the bridge opened only for pedestrians. Nearly 18,000 people waited at the barriers, held back by large numbers of police.

First Vehicles Cross
At 9:30am on May 28, 1937, the roadway opened. An official convoy of black limousines became the first vehicles to cross the bridge.

THE BRIDGE IN FIGURES

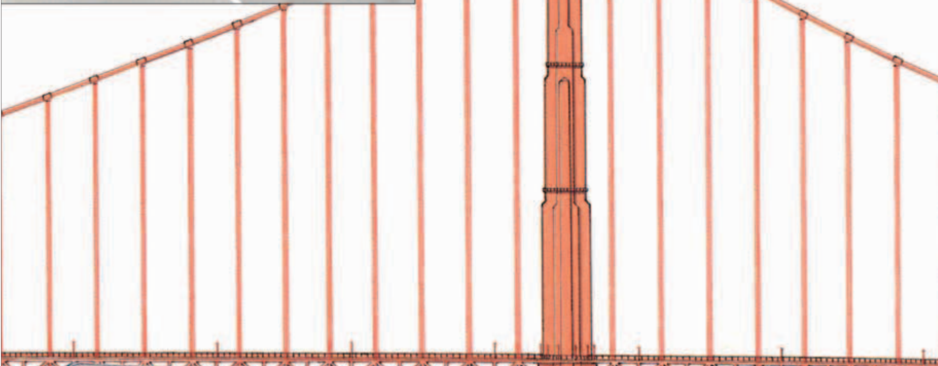
- Every year more than 40 million vehicles cross the bridge; every day about 112,000 vehicles use it.
- The original coat of paint lasted for 27 years, needing only touch-ups. From 1965 to 1995, a crew removed the old paint and applied a more durable coating.
- The two great 7,650-ft (2,332-m) main cables are more than 3 ft (1 m) thick, and contain 80,000 miles (128,744 km) of steel wire, enough to encircle the earth at the equator three times.
- The volume of concrete poured into the piers and anchorages during the bridge's construction would be enough to lay a 5-ft-wide (1.5 m) sidewalk stretching from New York to San Francisco, a distance of more than 2,500 miles (4,000 km).
- The bridge was designed to withstand 100 mph (160 km/h) winds.
- Each pier has to withstand a tidal flow of more than 60 mph (97 km/h), while supporting a 22,000-ton steel tower above.

Original painting of the bridge

View from Vista Point
The best view of both the bridge and San Francisco is from the Marin side.

Final Rivet

On April 28, 1937 Joseph B. Strauss led dignitaries to the center span with a final gold rivet. The dedication ceremony was begun by President Roosevelt in the White House via telegraph.



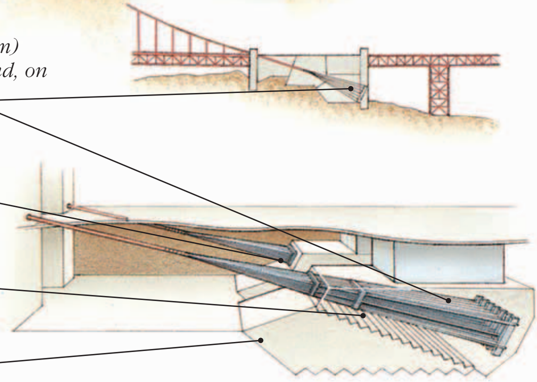
STOP – PAY TOLL
5
4

Toll Booths

As many as 600 cars an hour go through the toll booths during rush hours.

Anchorages

Anchorage blocks for the 3-ft (1-m) cables were built on dry solid land, on the Marin side at Lime Point.

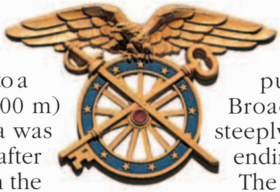


The cables are tied to hundreds of steel bars embedded in concrete.

Each anchorage has to resist a pull of 63 million pounds (29 million kg).

Concrete poured into two deep pits hardened into 50,000-ton blocks.

PACIFIC HEIGHTS AND THE MARINA



Fort Mason logo

Pacific Heights is an exclusive neighborhood that clings to a hillside rising 300 ft (100 m) above the city. The area was developed in the 1880s, after cable cars linking it with the city center were introduced. With its magnificent views, it quickly became a desirable place to live, and elegant Victorian houses still line its tree-shaded streets. Most of these are privately owned, but the Queen Anne-style Haas-Lilienthal House is open to the public. To the north of Broadway, the streets drop steeply to the Marina District, ending at San Francisco Bay. The houses here are built on a once-marshy site that was cleared and drained for the Panama–Pacific Exposition *(see p72)*, and the ambience is that of a seaside resort for the wealthy, with boutiques, lively cafés and two prestigious yacht clubs.

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Historic Streets and Buildings

Convent of the Sacred Heart ⑥
Cow Hollow ⑧
Fort Mason ⑮
Haas-Lilienthal House ①
Octagon House ⑪
Spreckels Mansion ②
Trinity Episcopal Church ⑦
Wave Organ ⑭

Parks and Gardens

Alta Plaza ④
Lafayette Park ③
Marina Green ⑬

Churches and Temples

Church of St. Mary the Virgin ⑨
Vedanta Temple ⑩

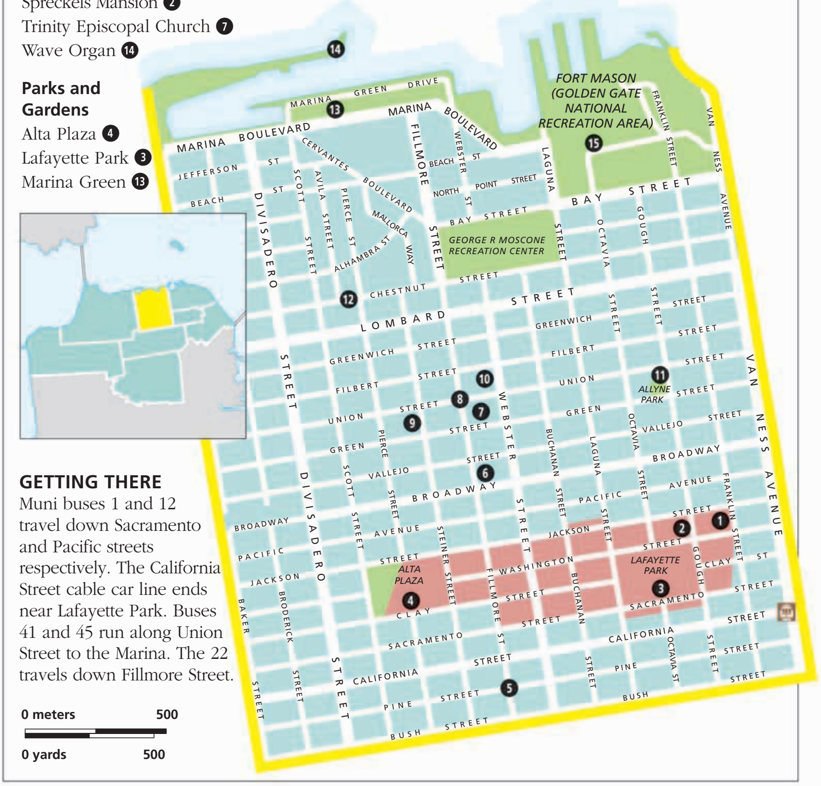
Shopping Streets

Chestnut Street ⑫
Fillmore Street ⑤

KEY

🟥 Street-by-Street map *See pp70–71*

▣ Cable car terminus


FORT MASON (GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA)
GEORGE R MOSCONE RECREATION CENTER
ALTA PLAZA
LAFAYETTE PARK
ALLYNE PARK
MARINA GREEN DRIVE
MARINA BOULEVARD
JEFFERSON ST
BEACH ST
CERVANTES BOULEVARD
MALLORCA WAY
ALHAMBRA ST
DIVISADERO STREET
SCOTT STREET
AVILA STREET
PIERCE ST
FILLMORE STREET
WEBSTER ST
BEACH
NORTH POINT STREET
BAY STREET
LAGUNA STREET
OCTAVIA
GOUGH
FRANKLIN STREET
VAN NESS AVENUE
CHESTNUT STREET
LOMBARD STREET
GREENWICH STREET
FILBERT STREET
UNION STREET
GREEN STREET
VALLEJO STREET
BROADWAY
PACIFIC AVENUE
JACKSON STREET
WASHINGTON STREET
CLAY ST
SACRAMENTO STREET
CALIFORNIA STREET
PINE STREET
BUSH STREET
BAKER STREET
BRODERICK STREET
STEINER STREET
BUCHANAN STREET
WEBSTER STREET
OCTAVIA ST
0 meters 500
0 yards 500

GETTING THERE

Muni buses 1 and 12 travel down Sacramento and Pacific streets respectively. The California Street cable car line ends near Lafayette Park. Buses 41 and 45 run along Union Street to the Marina. The 22 travels down Fillmore Street.

◁ **Detail of the southern façade of Spreckels Mansion, overlooking Washington Street**

Street-by-Street: Pacific Heights

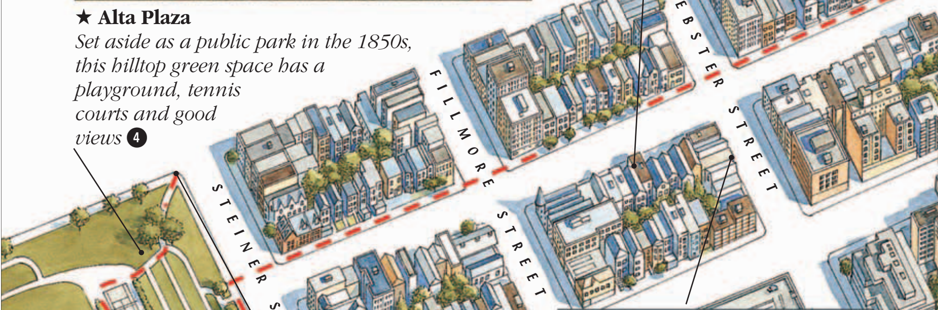
The blocks between Alta Plaza and Lafayette Park are at the heart of Pacific Heights. The streets here are quiet and tidy, lined with smart apartment blocks and palatial houses. Some date from the late 19th century, while others were built after the fire of 1906 *(see pp28–9)*. To the north of the area, the streets drop steeply toward the Marina District, affording outstanding views of the bay. Wander through the two large parks and past the luxuriant gardens of the mansions in between, then visit one of the numerous good bars, cafés and restaurants on lively Fillmore Street.

Toy rabbit in Haas-Lilienthal house

The view from Alta Plaza down hilly Pierce Street to the north encompasses the Marina District and offers a splendid panorama of the bay beyond.

Washington Street lies to the east of Alta Plaza. Here Victorian houses, in various architectural styles, fill an entire block.

★ Alta Plaza
Set aside as a public park in the 1850s, this hilltop green space has a playground, tennis courts and good views ❹



To bus no. 12

Webster Street Row houses (terraced houses) have been declared an historic landmark. They were built for a middle-class clientèle in 1878 and have since been restored.

STAR SIGHTS

★ Spreckels Mansion

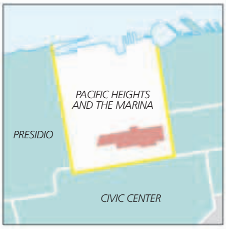
★ Alta Plaza

KEY

🟥 Suggested route

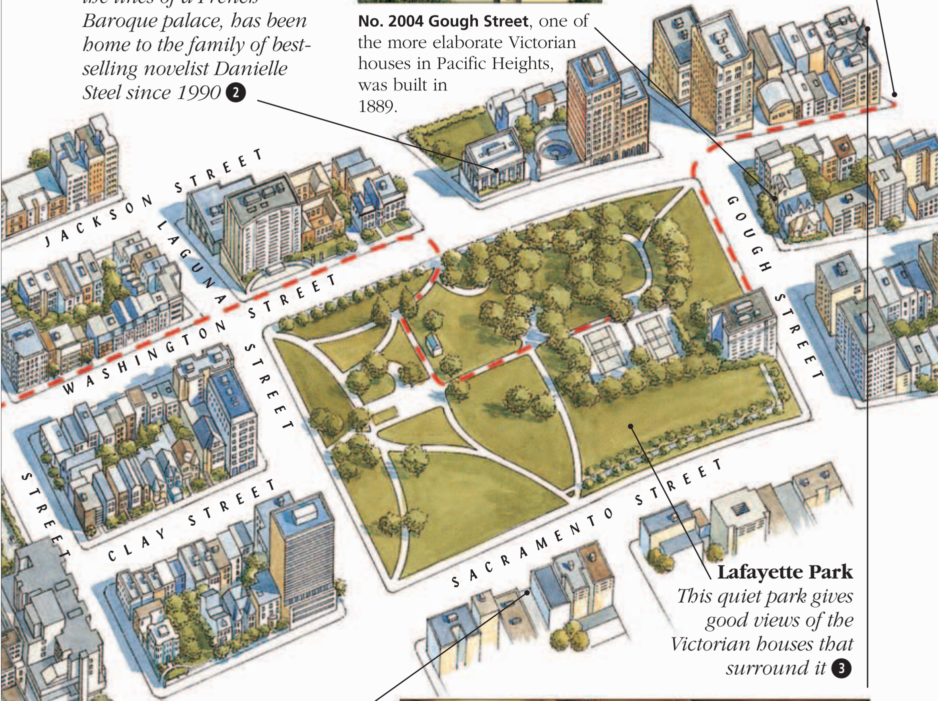
★ Spreckels Mansion
This impressive limestone building, constructed on the lines of a French Baroque palace, has been home to the family of best-selling novelist Danielle Steel since 1990 ❷

No. 2004 Gough Street, one of the more elaborate Victorian houses in Pacific Heights, was built in 1889.



PACIFIC HEIGHTS AND THE MARINA
PRESIDIO
CIVIC CENTER

LOCATOR MAP
See Street Finder, maps 3 & 4



JACKSON STREET
LAGUNA STREET
WASHINGTON STREET
GOUGH STREET
CLAY STREET
STREET
SACRAMENTO STREET

To bus nos. 47, 76

Lafayette Park
This quiet park gives good views of the Victorian houses that surround it ❸

2151
SACRAMENTO STREET
This house, built
in 1881, was once
occupied by
SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

No. 2151 Sacramento Street is an ornate French-style mansion. A plaque commemorates a visit by the author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in 1923.

Haas-Lilienthal House
Furnished in Victorian style, this mansion is the headquarters of the Architectural Heritage Foundation ❶

Haas-Lilienthal House ❶

2007 Franklin St. **Map** 4 E3. ***Tel*** *441-3004.* 🚌 *1, 19, 27, 47, 49, 83.* ✋ *noon–3pm Wed & Sat, 11am–4pm Sun (times may vary; call ahead).* 🎟 📷 🛍 **www**.sfheritage.org/house

This exuberant Queen Anne-style mansion *(see pp76–7)* was built in 1886 for the rich merchant William Haas. Alice Lilienthal, his daughter, lived there until 1972, when it was given to the Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage. It is the only intact private home of the period open as a museum, and is complete with authentic furniture. A fine example of an upper-middle-class Victorian dwelling, the house has elaborate wooden gables, a circular corner tower and luxuriant ornamentation.

The Haas-Lilienthal House, a Queen Anne mansion from 1886

A display of photographs in the basement describes the history of the building and reveals that this grandiose house was modest in comparison with some of the dozens of mansions destroyed in the fire of 1906 *(see pp28–9).*

Spreckels Mansion ❷

2080 Washington St. **Map** 4 E3 🚌 *1, 47, 49.* ● *to the public.*

Dominating the north side of Lafayette Park, this imposing Beaux Arts mansion *(see pp46–7)* is sometimes known as the "Parthenon of the West." It was built in 1912 for the flamboyant Alma de Bretteville Spreckels and her husband Adolph, who was heir to the sugar fortune of Claus Spreckels *(see p134).* Today the house is privately owned and occupies a block on Octavia Street, which is paved and landscaped in the style of curvy Lombard Street *(see p88).*

Imposing façade of Spreckels Mansion at Lafayette Park

The architect of the mansion was George Applegarth, who in 1916 designed the Legion of Honor *(see p156).* The Palace was donated to the city by the Spreckels in 1924.

Lafayette Park ❸

Map 4 E3. 🚌 *1, 12.*

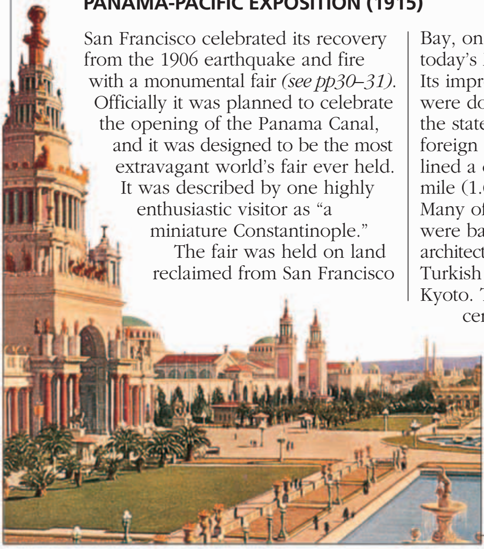
One of San Francisco's prettiest hilltop gardens, Lafayette Park is a leafy green haven of pine and eucalyptus trees, although its present tranquillity belies its turbulent history. Along with Alta Plaza and Alamo Square, the land was set aside in 1855 as city-owned open space, but squatters and others, including a former City Attorney, laid claim to the land and built houses on it. The largest of the houses stood at the center of the hilltop

PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION (1915)

San Francisco celebrated its recovery from the 1906 earthquake and fire with a monumental fair *(see pp30–31).* Officially it was planned to celebrate the opening of the Panama Canal, and it was designed to be the most extravagant world's fair ever held. It was described by one highly enthusiastic visitor as "a miniature Constantinople."

The fair was held on land reclaimed from San Francisco Bay, on the site of today's Marina District. Its impressive pavilions were donated by all the states and by 25 foreign countries and lined a concourse 1 mile (1.6 km) long. Many of the buildings were based on such architectural gems as a Turkish mosque and a Buddhist temple in Kyoto. The lavish Tower of Jewels, at the center of the concourse, was encrusted with glass beads and lit by spotlights. To the west stood the Palace of Fine Arts *(see pp60–61),* today the sole surviving structure from the fair, which visitors reached by gondola across a lagoon.

Ferry Building during Pan-Pacific Exposition



Panorama across the site of the Panama-Pacific Exposition

park until 1936, because the squatter who had built it refused to move. It was finally torn down after the city authorities agreed to swap it for land on Gough Street. Steep stairways now lead to the summit of the park and its delightful views. In the surrounding streets there are scores of palatial buildings, with particularly ornate examples along Broadway, Jackson Street and Pacific Avenue going east–west, and on Gough, Octavia and Laguna streets going north–south.

Alta Plaza ❹

Map 4 D3. 🚌 *1, 3, 12, 22, 24.*

Situated in the center of Pacific Heights, Alta Plaza is a beautifully landscaped urban park, where San Francisco's elite come to relax. There are angular stone steps (offering great city views) rising up from Clay Street on the south side of the park. These steps may be familiar to you from films – Barbra Streisand drove down them in *What's Up Doc?* The park has tennis courts and a playground, and from the north side of the park you can see splendid mansions, including the Gibbs House at 2622 Jackson Street, built by Willis Polk in 1894.

Fillmore Street ❺

Map 4 D4. 🚌 *1, 2, 3, 4, 22, 24.*

Fillmore Street survived the devastating 1906 earthquake *(see pp28–9)* virtually intact, and for several years afterward served as the civic heart of the city. Government departments, as well as private businesses, were housed in the district's shops, homes and even churches. Today the main commercial district of Pacific Heights is located here, from Jackson Street to Japantown *(see p128)* around Bush Street. This area boasts an abundance of bookstores, restaurants and boutiques.

Relaxing in Alta Plaza

Convent of the Sacred Heart ❻

2222 Broadway. **Map** 4 D3.
ℹ *563-2900.* 🚌 *22, 24.* ● *to the public.* ♿ **www**.sacredsf.org

This Neo-Classical villa was formerly known as the Flood Mansion. It was designed by the architects Bliss and Faville for James Leary Flood, son of the Comstock Mine magnate *(see p102)*, and was completed in 1915. With its harmonious proportions, impeccable detailing, and Tennessee marble façade, the house is the most refined of the Pacific Heights mansions. In 1939 the building became home to one of the oldest private schools in California.

Trinity Episcopal Church ❼

1668 Bush Street. **Map** 4 D4.
Tel *775-1117.* 🚌 *2, 3, 4, 19, 22, 49.*
www.sftrinity.org

This dramatic edifice is based on Durham Cathedral in northern England, arguably one of the finest examples of Norman architecture. The oldest Episcopal church on the Pacific Coast, Trinity celebrated its 150th anniversary in 1999. Its colorful stained-glass windows were designed by a pupil of John LaFarge, a leading figure in the New York art scene during the late 19th century. The high altar displays the 100-year old jewel-encrusted Trinity Cross, which was presented as a gift on Trinity Sunday by the women of the parish. The church is also home to the San Francisco Bach Choir.

Cow Hollow ❽

Map 4 D2. 🚌 *22, 41, 45.*

Cow Hollow, a shopping district along Union Street, is so called because it was used as grazing land for the city's dairy cows up until the 1860s. It was then taken over for development as a residential neighborhood. In the 1950s the area became fashionable, and chic boutiques, antique shops and art galleries took over the old neighborhood shops. Many of these are in restored 19th-century buildings, lending an old-fashioned air to the district, in stark contrast to the sophistication of the merchandise on display.

The view from Fillmore Street, overlooking Cow Hollow

Church of St. Mary the Virgin ⑨

2325 Union St. **Map** 4 D3. ***Tel*** *921-3665.* 🚌 *22, 41, 45.* ○ *9am–5pm Mon–Fri.* ✝ *8, 9, 11am and 5:30pm Sun.* 🚫 *during services.* **www**.smvsf.org

Evoking the more rural early 19th-century years of Cow Hollow *(see p73)*, this rustic, wooden-shingled Episcopal church stands at the west end of what is now the busy Union Street shopping area.

One of the natural springs that provided water for the Cow Hollow dairy herds still bubbles up in the grounds, now largely hidden from the view of passersby on the street by the church's original lych-gate and hedge.

The small, plain building is an early example of the Arts and Crafts style *(see p46)* later used in more prominent Bay Area churches. Below the steeply sloping roof, the walls are faced with "shingles," strips of redwood nailed in overlapping rows onto the building's wooden frame. Part of the church was remodeled in the 1950s, when the entrance was moved from Steiner Street to the opposite end of the building, but the fabric has been well preserved.

Ornate decoration on the Vedanta Temple

Vedanta Temple ⑩

2963 Webster St. **Map** 4 D2. ***Tel*** *922-2323.* 🚌 *22, 41, 45.* ● *to the public except for services.* ✝ *8pm Fri only.* 🚫 **www**.sfvedanta.org

One of the bay area's most unusual structures, the Vedanta Temple is an eclectic combination of a host of divergent decorative traditions. The roof is crowned by a rusty red onion-shaped dome similar to those seen on Russian Orthodox churches. It also has a tower resembling a crenellated European castle, and an octagonal Hindu temple cupola. Other architectural features include highly decorated Moorish arches, medieval parapets and elements of Queen Anne *(see p77)* and Colonial styles. It was built in 1905 by the architect Joseph A. Leonard, working closely with the Northern California Vedanta Society minister, Swami Trigunatitananda.

Vedanta is the highest of the six schools of Hinduism, and the building symbolizes the Vedanta concept that every religion is just a different way of reaching one god. The Temple is now a monastery, but it is worth a visit just to marvel at this bizarre building from the outside.

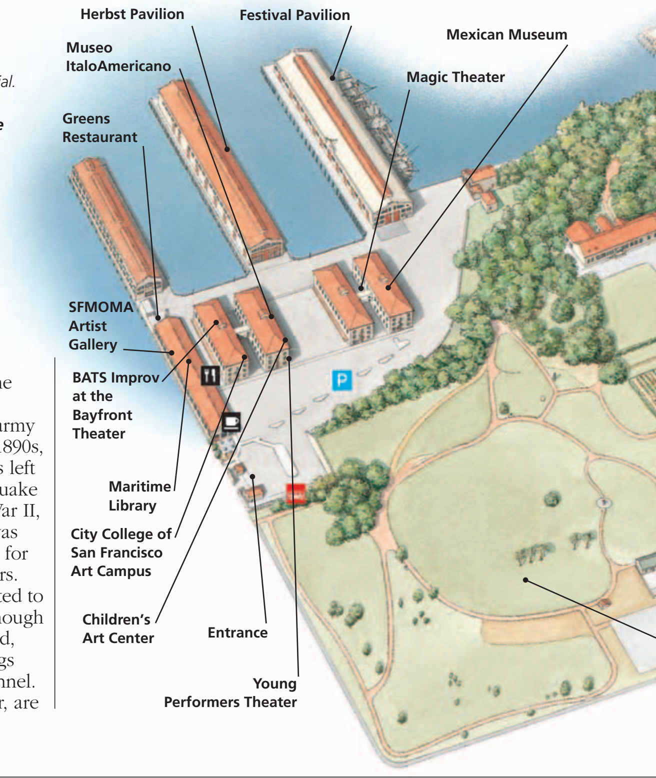
Fort Mason ⑮

Map 4 E1. ☎ *441-3400.* 🚌 *22, 28, 30, 43.* 📷 ♿ *partial.* **Events Line *Tel*** *345-7544.* **www**.fortmason.org. *See **Five Guided Walks** pp172–3.*

Fort Mason reflects the military history of San Francisco. The original buildings were private houses, erected in the late 1850s, which were confiscated by the US Government when the site was taken over by the US army during the Civil War (1861–65).

The Fort remained an army command post until the 1890s, and also housed refugees left homeless by 1906 earthquake *(see pp28–9)*. In World War II, Fort Mason Army Base was the point of embarkation for around 1.6 million soldiers.

Fort Mason was converted to peaceful use in 1972, although some of the white-painted, mid-19th-century buildings still house military personnel. Other buildings, however, are



Octagon House ⑪

2645 Gough St. **Map** 4 E2.
Tel *441-7512.* 🚌 *41, 45, 47, 49.*
○ *noon–3pm on second Sun and second and fourth Thu of the month, except Jan.* ***Donation suggested.***
⊘ ♿ *limited.* **www**.nscda.com

Built in 1861, the Octagon House is named for its eight-sided cupola. It houses a small, but engaging, collection of decorative arts and historic documents of the Colonial and Federal periods. Included are furniture, paintings, Revolutionary playing cards and signatures of 54 of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Chestnut Street ⑫

Map 3 C2. 🚌 *22, 28, 30, 43.*

The main shopping and nightlife center of the Marina District, Chestnut Street has a varied mix of movie theaters, markets, cafés and restaurants. The commercial strip stretches just a few blocks from Fillmore Street west to Divisadero Street, after which the neighborhood becomes predominantly residential in character.

Marina Green ⑬

Map 4 D1. 🚌 *22, 28, 30.*

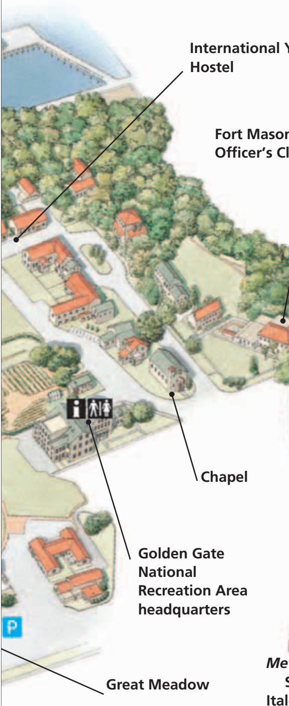
A long thin strip of lawn running the length of the Marina District, Marina Green is popular with kite-flyers and for picnics, especially on July 4, when the city's largest firework show can be seen from here *(see p49)*. Paths along the waterfront are the city's prime spots for bicyclists, joggers and roller skaters. Golden Gate Promenade leads from the west end of the green to Fort Point, or you can turn east to the Wave Organ at the harbor jetty.

Wave Organ ⑭

Map 4 D1. 🚌 *30.*

Sitting at the tip of the breakwater that protects the Marina is the world's most peculiar musical instrument. Built by scientists from the Exploratorium *(see pp60–61)*, the Wave Organ consists of a number of underwater pipes that echo and hum with the changing tides. Listening tubes are imbedded in a mini-amphitheater that has views of Pacific Heights and the Presidio. The sounds you hear are more like gurgling plumbing than organ music.

Wave Organ at the end of the West Harbor jetty



International Youth Hostel
Fort Mason Officer's Club
i
Chapel
Golden Gate National Recreation Area headquarters
P
Great Meadow

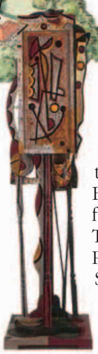
open to the public. These include the original barracks, and the old hospital, which serves as a Visitor Center and headquarters of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA).

Fort Mason has some of the city's finest views, looking across the bay toward Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz.

Fort Mason Center

Part of the Fort is now occupied by one of San Francisco's prime art complexes. Fort Mason Center is home to over 25 cultural organizations, art galleries, museums, and theaters, including the Cowell Theater, the BATS Improv at the Bayfront Theater, the Magic Theater, and the Young Performers Theater. The SFMOMA Artist Gallery offers artworks from Northern Californian artists for sale or rent. Italian and Italian-American artists display their works at the Museo ItaloAmericano. The Maritime Library holds a wonderful collection of maritime history books, oral histories, and ships' plans. The Maritime Museum (partly closed for renovation until 2012) itself *(see p83)* is located near Fisherman's Wharf. Among the places to eat at the Fort Mason Center is Greens *(see p229)*, one of the city's best vegetarian restaurants.

The Conference Center produces a monthly calendar of events.



Meta III **(1985) by Italo Scanga at Museo ItaloAmericano chapel**

The SS *Balclutha*, at Hyde Street Pier, part of the Maritime Museum

Victorian Houses in San Francisco

Italianate window

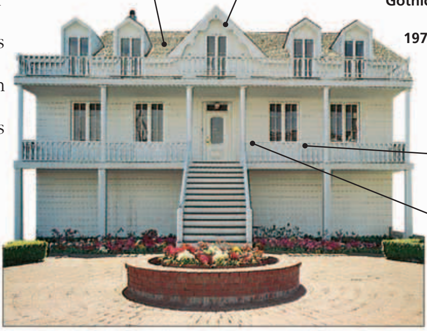
Despite earthquakes, fires, and the inroads of modern life, thousands of ornate, late 19th-century houses still line the streets of San Francisco. In fact, in many neighborhoods they are by far the most common type of housing. Victorian houses are broadly similar, in that they all have wooden frames, elaborately decorated with mass-produced ornament. Most were constructed on narrow plots to a similar floor plan, but they differ in the features of the façade. Four main styles prevail in the city, although in practice many houses, especially those built in the 1880s and 1890s, combine aspects of two or more styles.

Detail of Queen Anne-style gateway at Chateau Tivoli

GOTHIC REVIVAL (1850–80)

Gothic Revival houses are the easiest to identify, since they always have pointed arches over the windows and sometimes over the doors. Other features are pitched gabled roofs, decorated vergeboards (again, with pointed arch motifs) and porches that run the width of the building. The smaller, simpler houses of this type are usually painted white, rather than the vibrant colors often associated with later styles.

Gothic porch with cross bracing at 1978 Filbert Street



The pitched roof over the main façade often runs lengthwise, allowing the use of dormer windows.

A gabled roof with decorated vergeboards is the clearest mark of Gothic Revival.

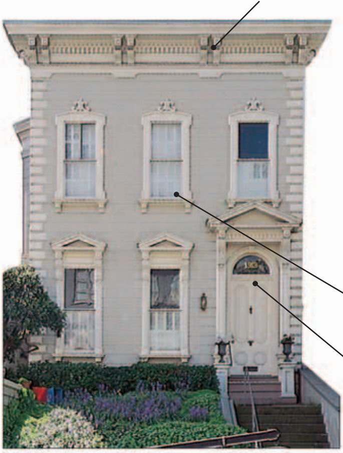
Wide porches can be reached by a central staircase.

Balustrades on the porch betray the origins of the style in the Deep South.

No. 1111 Oak Street *is one of the city's oldest Gothic Revival buildings. Its front garden is unusually large.*

ITALIANATE (1850–85)

Italianate houses were more popular in San Francisco than elsewhere in the US, perhaps because their compact form was suited to the city's high building density. The most distinctive feature of the Italianate style is the tall cornice, usually with a decorative bracket, which adds a palatial air even to modest homes. Elaborate decoration around doors and windows is another feature typical of the style.



Tall cornices, often with decorative brackets, conceal a pitched roof.

Symmetrical windows are capped by decorative arches.

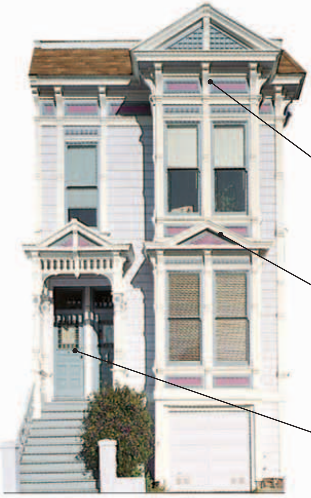
Neo-Classical doorways, sometimes with ornate pedimented porches, are a typical Italianate touch.

No. 1913 Sacramento Street *displays a typical formal Italianate façade, modeled on a Renaissance* palazzo. *The wooden exterior is made to look like stone.*

Imposing entrance with Italianate porch

STICK (1860-90)

This architectural style, with its ungainly name, is perhaps the most prevalent among Victorian houses in the city. Sometimes also called "Stick-Eastlake" after London furniture designer Charles Eastlake, this style was intended to be architecturally "honest." Vertical lines are emphasized, both in the wood-frame structure and in ornamentation. Bay windows, false gabled cornices and square corners are key identifying features.



No. 1715–1717 Capp Street *is a fine example of the Stick-Eastlake style, with a plain façade enlivened by decorative flourishes.*

Wide bands of trim often form a decorative truss, emphasizing the underlying structure of Stick houses.

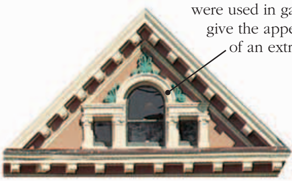
Decorative gables filled with "sunburst" motifs are used on porches and window frames.

Adjoining front doors can be protected by a single projecting porch.

Gabled roof with Eastlake windows at 2931 Pierce Street

QUEEN ANNE (1875–1905)

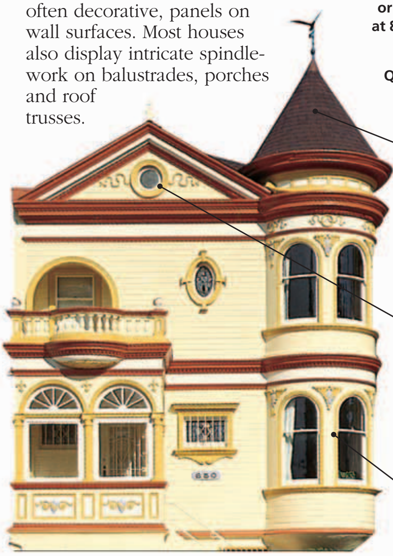
The name "Queen Anne" does not refer to a historical period; it was coined by the English architect Richard Shaw. Queen Anne houses freely combine elements from many decorative traditions, but are marked by their turrets and towers and large, often decorative, panels on wall surfaces. Most houses also display intricate spindlework on balustrades, porches and roof trusses.



Palladian windows were used in gables to give the appearance of an extra floor.

Queen Anne gable filled with ornamental panels at 818 Steiner Street

Queen Anne turret topped by a finial at 1015 Steiner Street



The asymmetrical façade *of 850 Steiner Street, with its eclectic ornament, is typical of a Queen Anne house. Such features are often painted in various bright colors.*

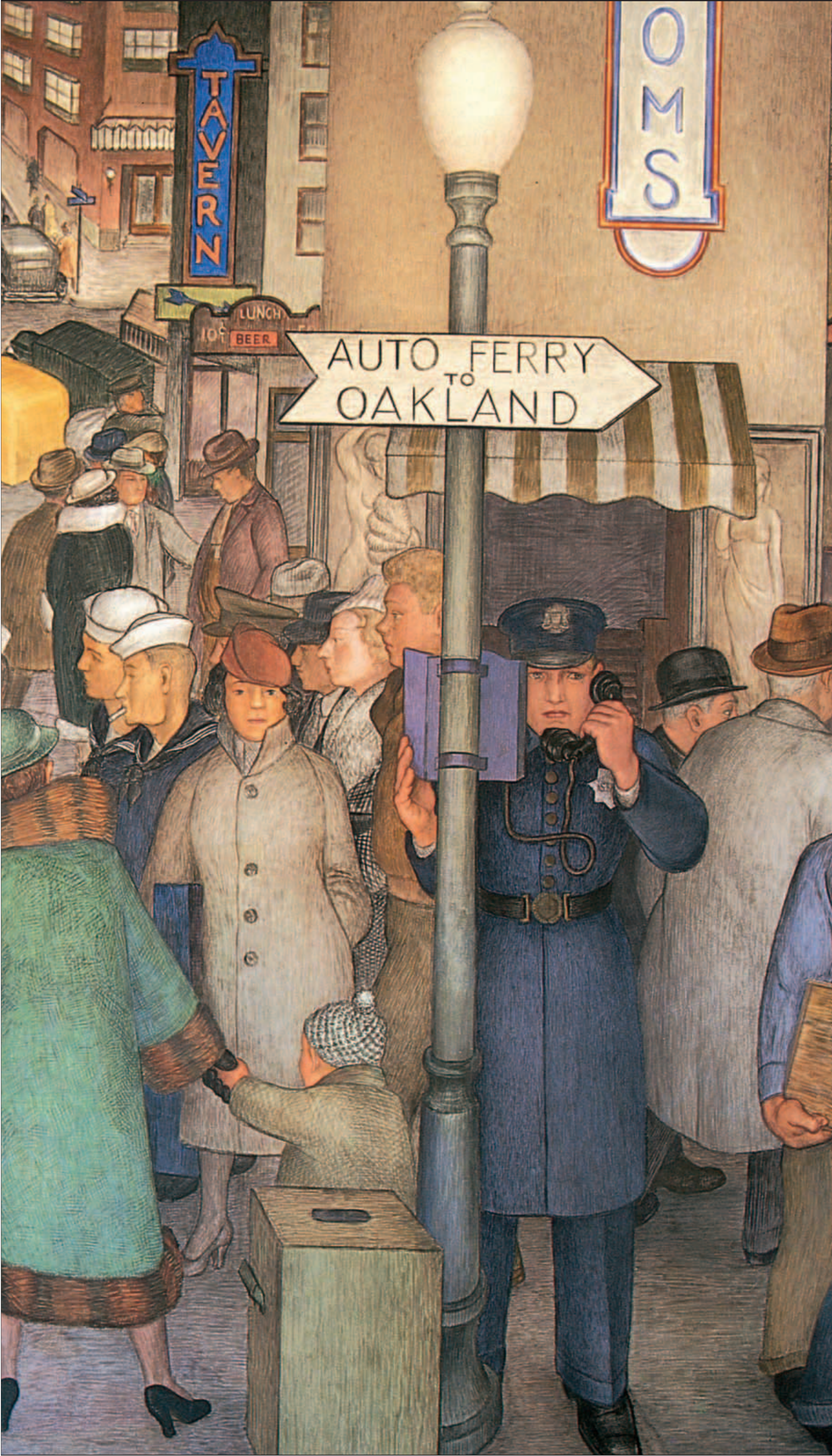
Round, square and polygonal turrets and towers are typical of Queen Anne-style houses.

Gable pediments hold ornamental windows and decorative panels.

The curved window frame is not itself characteristic of Queen Anne style, but many houses include features borrowed from other styles.

WHERE TO FIND VICTORIAN HOUSES

1715–1717 Capp St. **Map** 10 F4
Chateau Tivoli, 1057 Steiner St. **Map** 4 D4
1978 Filbert St. **Map** 4 D2
1111 Oak St. **Map** 9 C1
2931 Pierce St. **Map** 4 D3
1913 Sacramento St. **Map** 4 E3
818 Steiner St. **Map** 4 D5
850 Steiner St. **Map** 4 D5
1015 Steiner St. **Map** 4 D5
2527–2531 Washington St. **Map** 4 D3
Alamo Square *p129*
Clarke's Folly *p139*
Haas-Lilienthal House *p72*
Liberty Street. **Map** 10 E3
Masonic Avenue. **Map** 3 C4
Octagon House *p75*
Sherman House *p73*
Spreckels Mansion *p72*


TAVERN
OMS
LUNCH
10¢
BEER
AUTO FERRY TO OAKLAND

FISHERMAN'S WHARF AND NORTH BEACH

FISHERMANS WHARF OF SAN FRANCISCO

Fisherman's Wharf entrance sign

Fishermen from Genoa and Sicily first arrived in the Fisherman's Wharf area in the late 19th century, and here they founded the San Francisco fishing industry. The district has slowly given way to tourism since the 1950s, but brightly painted boats still set out from the harbor on fishing trips early each morning. To the south of Fisherman's Wharf lies North Beach, sometimes known as "Little Italy." This lively part of the city has an abundance of aromatic delis, bakeries and cafés, from which you can watch the crowds. It is home to Italian and Chinese families, with a sprinkling of writers and bohemians; Jack Kerouac *(see p32)*, among others, found inspiration here.

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Historic Streets and Buildings

Alcatraz Island pp84–7 ①
Filbert Steps ⑱
Greenwich Steps ⑲
Lombard Street ⑨
PIER 39 ②
Upper Montgomery Street ⑳
Vallejo Street Stairway ⑪

Monuments

Coit Tower ⑰

Churches

Saints Peter and Paul Church ⑮

Shopping Centers

The Cannery ⑥
Ghirardelli Square ⑦

Restaurants and Bars

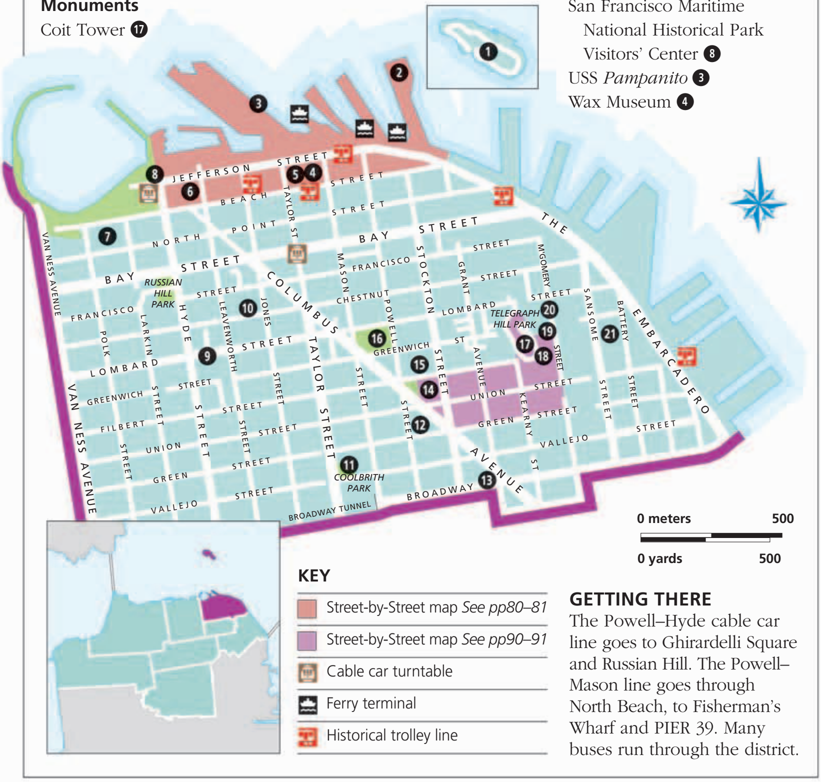
Club Fugazi ⑫

Parks and Gardens

Bocce Ball Courts ⑯
Levi's Plaza ㉑
Washington Square ⑭

Museums and Galleries

North Beach Beat Museum ⑬
Ripley's Believe It Or Not! Museum ⑤
San Francisco Art Institute ⑩
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park Visitors' Center ⑧
USS *Pampanito* ③
Wax Museum ④


JEFFERSON STREET
BEACH STREET
NORTH POINT STREET
BAY STREET
FRANCISCO STREET
CHESTNUT STREET
LOMBARD STREET
GREENWICH STREET
FILBERT STREET
UNION STREET
GREEN STREET
VALLEJO STREET
BROADWAY
BROADWAY TUNNEL
VAN NESS AVENUE
POLK STREET
LARKIN STREET
HYDE STREET
LEAVENWORTH STREET
JONES STREET
TAYLOR STREET
TAYLOR ST
MASON STREET
POWELL STREET
STOCKTON STREET
GRANT AVENUE
KEARNY ST
M'GOMERY STREET
SANSOME STREET
BATTERY STREET
COLUMBUS AVENUE
THE EMBARCADERO
RUSSIAN HILL PARK
TELEGRAPH HILL PARK
COOLBRITH PARK
0 meters 500
0 yards 500

KEY

- ▨ Street-by-Street map *See pp80–81*
- ▨ Street-by-Street map *See pp90–91*
- Cable car turntable
- Ferry terminal
- Historical trolley line

GETTING THERE

The Powell–Hyde cable car line goes to Ghirardelli Square and Russian Hill. The Powell–Mason line goes through North Beach, to Fisherman's Wharf and PIER 39. Many buses run through the district.

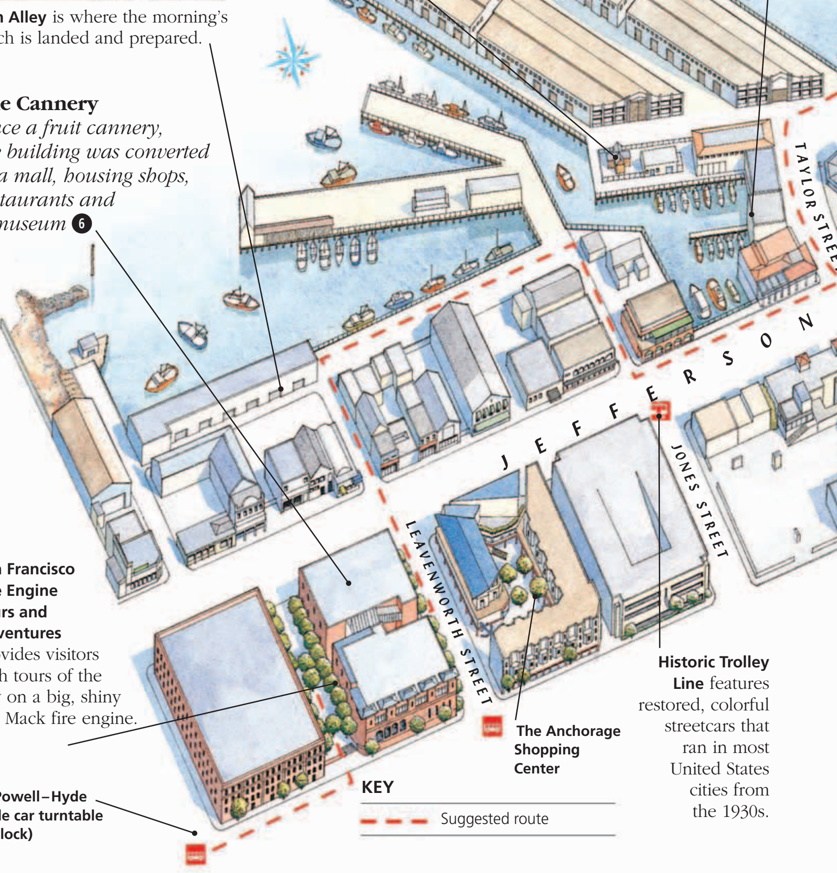
◁ **Detail of Coit Tower mural showing Fisherman's Wharf in the 1930s**

Street-by-Street: Fisherman's Wharf

Italian seafood restaurants have replaced fishing as the primary focus of the Fisherman's Wharf local economy. Restaurants and outdoor crab stands serve San Francisco's celebrated Dungeness crab from November to June. Besides sampling the seafood, visitors also take in the shops, museums and attractions for which Fisherman's Wharf is noted. Tickets for Alcatraz can be purchased from Pier 33.

★ USS *Pampanito*
An audio tour gives an idea of the hardships endured by sailors in this World War II submarine ❸

Fish Alley is where the morning's catch is landed and prepared.



Fisherman's and Seaman's Chapel was built on the pier so that the devout could pray before they sailed and after they returned.

Pier 45

Fisherman's Wharf is now a street lined with seafood restaurants and crab stands.

The Cannery
Once a fruit cannery, the building was converted to a mall, housing shops, restaurants and a museum ❻

San Francisco Fire Engine Tours and Adventures provides visitors with tours of the city on a big, shiny red Mack fire engine.

To Powell–Hyde cable car turntable (1 block)

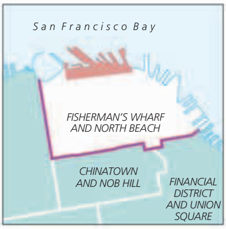
The Anchorage Shopping Center

Historic Trolley Line features restored, colorful streetcars that ran in most United States cities from the 1930s.

KEY

▬ ▬ ▬ Suggested route

Sea lions sunning on PIER 39's boat docks are the delight of tourists, but a nuisance for boat owners. The colony arrives around January.


San Francisco Bay
FISHERMAN'S WHARF AND NORTH BEACH
CHINATOWN AND NOB HILL
FINANCIAL DISTRICT AND UNION SQUARE

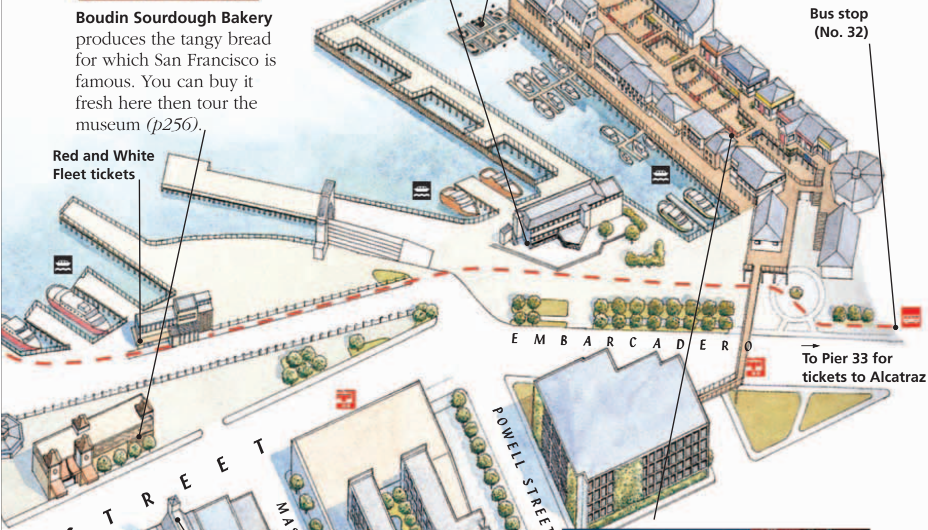
LOCATOR MAP
See Street Finder, map 6

Boudin Sourdough Bakery produces the tangy bread for which San Francisco is famous. You can buy it fresh here then tour the museum *(p256).*

Red and White Fleet tickets

Blue and Gold Fleet and bay cruise tickets *(p299)*

Bus stop (No. 32)


EMBARCADERO
STREET
MASON STREET
POWELL STREET

→ To Pier 33 for tickets to Alcatraz

Wax Museum
Almost 300 life-size wax figures of past and present-day personalities greet visitors to this museum ❹

Ripley's Believe It or Not!

Ripley's Believe It Or Not! Museum
This is a selection of the famed cartoonist's strange collection of curiosities and odd facts ❺

0 meters 100
0 yards 100

STAR SIGHTS
- ★ PIER 39
- ★ USS *Pampanito*

SUN RIPED FLAVOR

★ PIER 39
A collection of restaurants, shops and amusements, set against a backdrop of spectacular bay views, is one of the city's more popular tourist attractions ❷

Alcatraz Island ❶

See pp84–7.

PIER 39 ❷

Map 5 B1. 🚋 *F. See* ***Shopping in San Francisco*** *p245.*

Refurbished in 1978 to resemble a quaint wooden fishing village, this 1905 cargo pier now houses many tourist shops and specialty stores spread through two levels.

The pier's street performers and amusements are popular with families. You can try the two-story carousel, play games at the Riptide arcade, or brave the Turbo Ride, a roller-coaster simulator where a film gives the illusion of speed and danger. An aquarium is also planned.

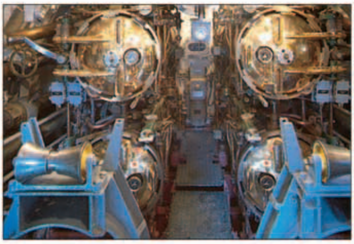
A sensational multimedia show, the San Francisco Experience, whisks visitors through an historical tour of the city, complete with Chinese New Year celebrations, fog and an earthquake.

The two-story Venetian Carousel on PIER 39

USS *Pampanito* ❸

Pier 45. **Map** 4 F1. ***Tel*** *775-1943.* 🚌 *47.* ○ *9am–6pm daily (sometimes stays open later; call ahead for details).* ▨ 📷 🎧 **www**.maritime.org

This World War II submarine fought in, and survived, several bloody battles in the Pacific, sinking six enemy ships and severely damaging others. Tragically for the allies, two of its fatal targets were carrying British and Australian POWs. The *Pampanito* managed to rescue 73 men and carry them to safety in the US. A tour of the ship takes visitors from stern to bow to see the torpedo room, the claustrophobic kitchen and officers' quarters. When the *Pampanito* was in service, it had a full crew of 10 officers and 70 seamen.



USS *Pampanito's* torpedo room

Wax Museum ❹

145 Jefferson St. **Map** 5 B1. ☎ *(800) 439-4305.* 🚋 *F.* ○ *10am–9pm daily.* ▨ 📷 ♿ **www**.waxmuseum.com

One of the world's largest and most absorbing collections of life-size wax figures is displayed here. The ancient tomb of Egyptian King Tutankhamun is re-created in one special exhibit, while a tableau of the Last Supper dominates the Hall of Religions. In the Hall of Living Art, portraits such as the *Mona Lisa* are rendered in wax. A host of fictional characters rubs shoulders with historical luminaries, including 14 US presidents, members of the British Royal family, Sir Winston Churchill, William Shakespeare, Mozart, Mark Twain, Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe and Al Capone. A gruesome assortment can be found in the compelling Chamber of Horrors.

Ripley's Believe It Or Not! Museum ❺

175 Jefferson St. **Map** 4 F1. ***Tel*** *771-6188.* 🚋 *F.* ○ *10am–10pm Sun–Thu, 10am–midnight Fri–Sat (mid-Jun–Labor Day: 9am–11pm Sun–Thu, 9am–midnight Fri–Sat).* ▨ 📷 ♿ **www**.ripleysf.com

California native Robert L. Ripley was an illustrator with a penchant for collecting peculiar facts and artifacts. He earned his fame and fortune by syndicating his newspaper cartoon strip, called "Ripley's Believe It Or Not!" Among the 350 oddities on display are a cable car built of 275,000 matchsticks, a two-headed calf, and an image of a man who had two pupils in each eyeball. Get lost in the Marvelous Mirror Maze and sample some candy from the factory. Some of Ripley's famous cartoon strips are on display too.

The Cannery ❻

2801 Leavenworth St. **Map** 4 F1. 🚌 *19, 30.* 🚋 *Powell–Hyde. See* ***Shopping in San Francisco*** *p245.*

The interior of this 1909 fruit-canning plant was refurbished in the 1960s. It now incorporates footbridges, rambling passages and sunny courtyards, with restaurants and specialty shops selling clothing, collector dolls and American Indian arts and crafts.

The Cannery also used to house the Museum of the City of San Francisco, but a fire forced the premises to close. However, the collection has moved to the City Hall *(see p127)*, where all the exhibits are now on display. Among these is the massive head of the statue that capped City Hall before the 1906 earthquake *(see pp28–9)*. The illuminated crown on the head is an example of early electric illumination. You can also visit www.sfmuseum.org.

Ghirardelli Square ❼

900 North Point St. **Map** 4 F1. 🚌 *19, 30, 47, 49.* 🚋 *Powell–Hyde. See* ***Shopping in San Francisco*** *p244.*

Once a chocolate factory and woollen mill, this is the most attractive of San Francisco's many refurbished factories. It is a blend of old, red-brick buildings and modern, elegant shops and restaurants. The shopping center retains the famous Ghirardelli trademark clock tower and the original bright electric roof sign. Ghirardelli Chocolate Manufacturing on the plaza beneath the tower still houses vintage chocolate-making machinery and sells the confection, although the famous chocolate bars are now made in San Leandro, across the bay.

Ghirardelli

Ghirardelli Square

Fountain Plaza is a colorful outdoor attraction for shoppers day and evening.

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park Visitors' Center ❽

900 Beach St. **Map** 4 F1. 🚌 *10, 19, 30.* 🚋 *Powell–Hyde.* **Museum** ***Tel*** *561-7100.* ● *partly, for renovation, until 2012.* **Hyde Street Pier** ***Tel*** *447-5000.* ○ *9:30am–5pm daily (Jun–Aug: to 5:30pm).* ● *Jan 1, Thanksgiving, Dec 25.* 🎫 *Pier only.* 📷 ♿ *Pier and museum only.* 🛍 *See* ***Five Guided Walks*** *pp172–3.* **www**.maritime.org

Built in 1939, this building first housed the Maritime Museum in 1951. Though partly closed for renovation, visitors can still take time to admire the Streamline Modern style building with its clean lines of an ocean liner. Moored at nearby Hyde Street Pier is one of the world's largest collections of old ships.

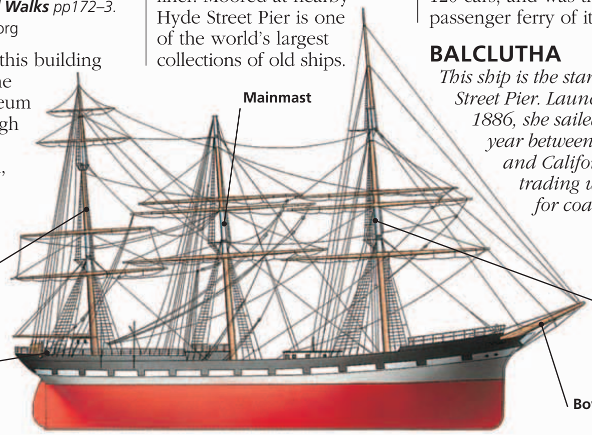
HYDE ST PIER

Hyde Street Pier

Among the most spectacular is the *CA Thayer*, a three-masted schooner built in 1895 and retired in 1950. The *Thayer* carried lumber along the North California coast, and later was used in Alaskan fishing. Also at the pier is the 2,560-ton side-wheel ferryboat, *Eureka*, built in 1890 to ferry trains between the Hyde Street Pier and the counties north of San Francisco Bay. It carried 2,300 passengers and 120 cars, and was the largest passenger ferry of its day.

BALCLUTHA

This ship is the star of Hyde Street Pier. Launched in 1886, she sailed twice a year between Britain and California, trading wheat for coal.



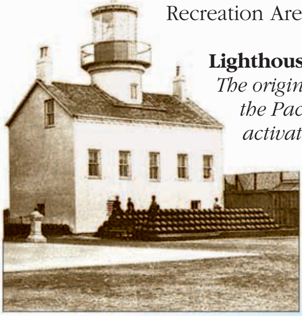
Alcatraz Island ❶

Alcatraz means "pelican" in Spanish, a reference to the first inhabitants of this rocky, steepsided island. Lying 3 miles (5 km) east of the Golden Gate, its location is both strategic and exposed to harsh ocean winds. In 1859, the US military established a fort here that guarded San Francisco Bay until 1907, when it became a military prison. From 1934–63, it served as a maximum-security Federal Penitentiary. Unoccupied until 1969, the island was seized by Indians of All Tribes *(see p32)* laying claim to the island as their land. The group was expelled in 1971, and Alcatraz is now part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Badge on entrance to cell house

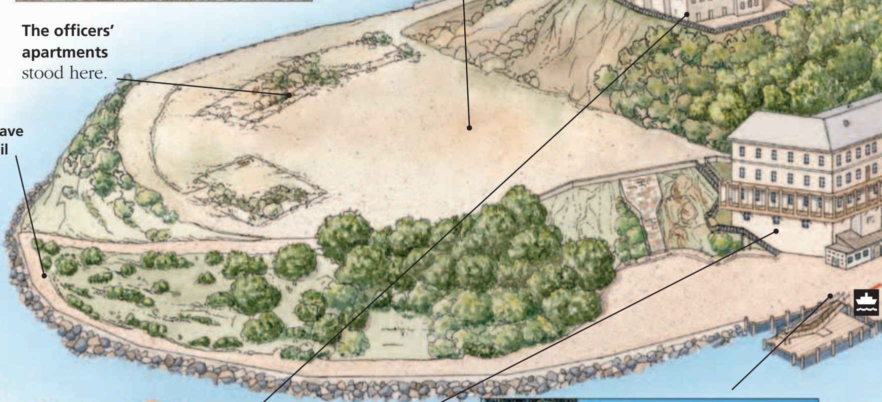
★ Cell Block

The cell house contains four free-standing cell blocks. No cell has an outside wall or ceiling. The dungeon-like foundation of the "Big House," as inmates called the main prison block, shares the original foundation of the old military fortress.



Lighthouse

The original Alcatraz lighthouse, the first on the Pacific coast of the United States, was activated in 1854 and replaced in 1909 by the present structure.



Military parade ground (open seasonally)

The officers' apartments stood here.

Agave Trail

Barracks buildings

Warden's House

This house suffered extensive fire damage during the American Indian occupation of 1969–71.

Alcatraz Pier

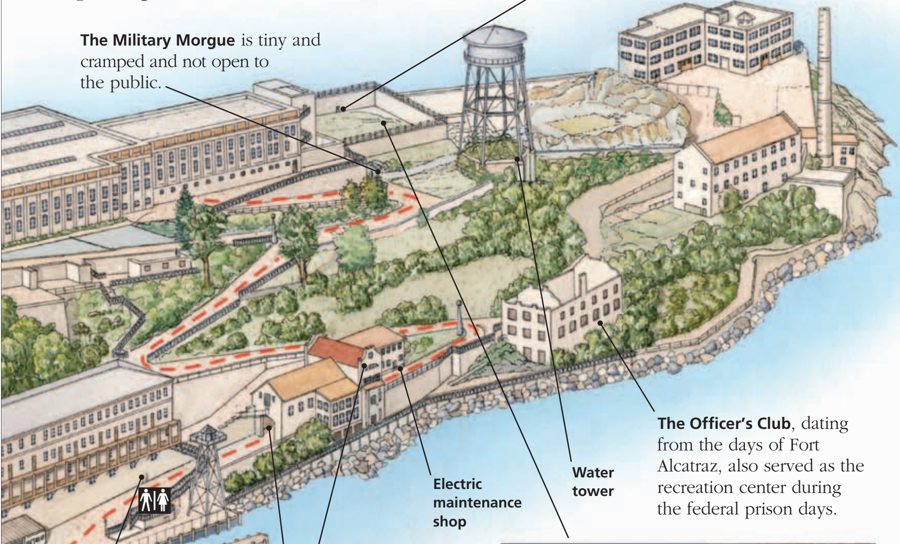
Visitors alight at this pier facing the Barracks. Most prisoners took their first steps ashore nearby.

Alcatraz Island from the Ferry

"The Rock" has no natural soil. Earth was shipped from Angel Island to make garden plots.

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Map 6 F1. ***Tel*** *981-7625 for tickets and schedules.* ***Night Tours*** *Thu–Mon.* ***Tel*** *561-4926.* ⛴ *from Pier 33.* ○ *daily.* ● *Jan 1, Thanksgiving, Dec 25.* 📷 ♿ *in places.* ***Visitor Center*** ✋ 🛍 🎧 ***Film presentation.*** *Buy tickets in advance.* **www**.nps.gov/alcatraz **www**.alcatrazcruises.com



Metal detectors checked prisoners on their way to and from the dining hall and exercise yards. The "machine" on display in the Cell House is a prop from the film *Escape from Alcatraz*.

The Military Morgue is tiny and cramped and not open to the public.

The Officer's Club, dating from the days of Fort Alcatraz, also served as the recreation center during the federal prison days.

Water tower

Electric maintenance shop

The Military Dorm was built in 1933 for use by the military prison guards.

The Exhibit Area is in the old barracks building behind the ferry jetty. It houses a bookstore, exhibits and multimedia show providing an historical overview of Alcatraz, and an information counter.

Sally Port dates from 1857. Equipped with drawbridge and dry moat, this guardhouse defended the approach to Fort Alcatraz.

★ Exercise Yard

Meals and walks around the exercise yard were the highlights of a prisoner's day. The walled yard featured in films made at the prison.

KEY

🟥 Suggested route

0 meters **75**

0 yards **75**

STAR FEATURES

- ★ Cell Block
- ★ Exercise Yard

Inside Alcatraz

Typical cell key

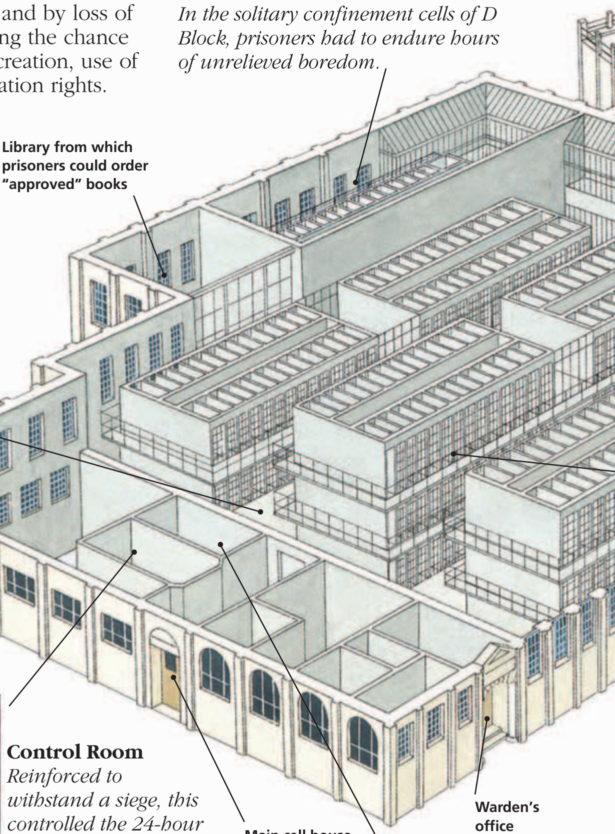
The maximum-security prison on Alcatraz, dubbed "The Rock" by the US Army, housed an average of 264 of the country's most incorrigible criminals, who were transferred here for disobedience while serving time in prisons elsewhere in the US. The strict discipline at Alcatraz was enforced by the threat of a stint in the isolation cells and by loss of privileges, including the chance at special jobs, time for recreation, use of the prison library and visitation rights.

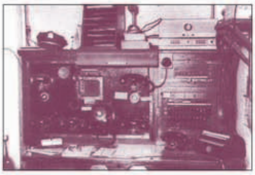
D Block

In the solitary confinement cells of D Block, prisoners had to endure hours of unrelieved boredom.

Broadway

The corridor that separates C and B blocks was nicknamed by prisoners after New York City's busiest thoroughfare.


Library from which prisoners could order "approved" books
Main cell house entrance
Visiting area
Warden's office



Control Room

Reinforced to withstand a siege, this controlled the 24-hour electric security system.

TIMELINE

1750 1800 1850 1900 1950

1775 Spanish explorer Juan Manuel de Ayala names Alcatraz after the pelicans that inhabit it

1848 John Fremont buys Alcatraz for US government

1854 First Pacific Coast lighthouse built on Alcatraz

1857 Sally Port built

1859 Fort Alcatraz completed; equipped with 100 cannon and 300 troops

1909–12 Army prisoners build the cell house

1934 Federal Bureau of Prisons turns Alcatraz into a civilian prison

1962 Frank Morris and the Anglin brothers escape

1963 Prison closed

1969–71 Island occupied by Indians of All Tribes

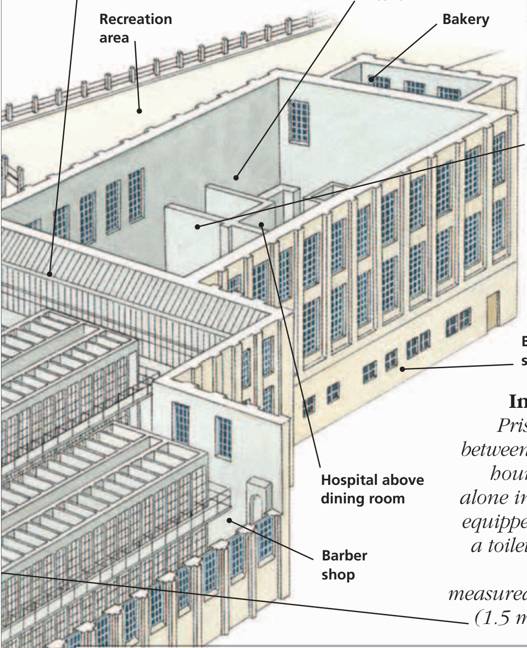
1972 Alcatraz becomes a national park

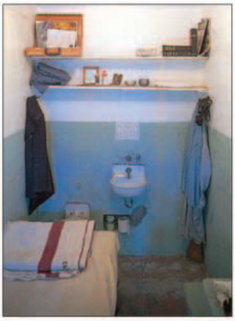
John Fremont

Sally Port

Gun Gallery
Guards armed with pistols and rifles patrolled along the caged walkways at the ends of the cell blocks.

Dining Room
Inmates were well fed, the better to quell rebellion. Note the sample menu on display at the kitchen entrance.





Inside a Cell
Prisoners spent between 16 and 23 hours every day alone in stark cells, equipped with only a toilet and bunk. Many cells measured 5 ft by 9 ft (1.5 m by 2.7 m).

FAMOUS INMATES

Al Capone

The notorious Prohibition-era gangster, "Scarface" Capone was actually convicted, in 1934, for income tax evasion! He spent much of his five-year sentence on Alcatraz in a hospital isolation cell, and finally left the prison mentally unbalanced.

Robert Stroud

Stroud spent all of his 17 years on The Rock in solitary confinement. Despite assertions to the contrary in the film *The Birdman of Alcatraz* (1962), Stroud was in fact prohibited from keeping birds in his prison cell.

Carnes, Thompson and Shockley

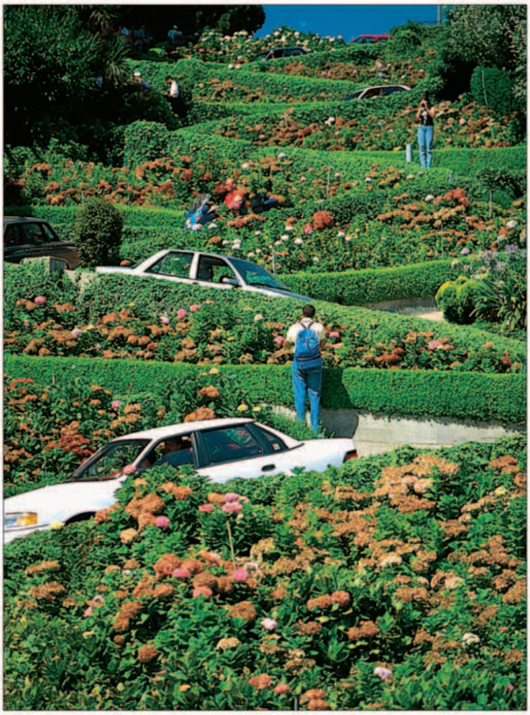
In May 1946, prisoners led by Clarence Carnes, Marion Thompson and Sam Shockley overpowered guards and captured their guns. The prisoners failed to break out of the cell house, but three inmates and two officers were killed in the "Battle of Alcatraz." Carnes received an additional life sentence, and Shockley and Thompson were executed at San Quentin prison, for their part as ringleaders of the insurrection.

Anglin Brothers

John and Clarence Anglin, along with Frank Morris, chipped through the back walls of their cells, hiding the holes with cardboard grates. They left dummy heads in their beds and made a raft to enable their escape. They were never caught. Their story was dramatized in the film *Escape from Alcatraz* (1979).

George Kelly

"Machine Gun" Kelly was The Rock's most infamous inmate. He served 17 years for kidnapping and extortion.



Cars negotiating the steep and crooked section of Lombard Street

Lombard Street ❾

Map 5 A2. 🚌 *45.* 🚋 *Powell–Hyde.*

Banked at a natural incline of 27°, this hill proved too steep for vehicles to climb. In the 1920s the section of Lombard Street close to the summit of Russian Hill was revamped, and the severity of its gradient lessened by the addition of eight curves.

Today it is known as "the crookedest street in the world." Cars can travel downhill only, while people take the steps or use the cable car.

San Francisco Art Institute ❿

800 Chestnut St. **Map** 4 F2. ***Tel*** *771-7020.* 🚌 *30.* **Diego Rivera Gallery** ○ *8am–7pm daily.* ● *public hols.* **Walter and McBean Galleries** ○ *11am–6pm Tue–Sat.* ♿ *partial.* 🛍 ☕ **www**.sfai.edu

San Francisco's Art Institute dates from 1871 and once occupied the large wooden mansion built for the family

A 30-Minute Walk through North Beach

Settlers from Chile, and later those from Italy, created the North Beach nightlife that earned this quarter its exuberant reputation. Its café-oriented atmosphere has long appealed to bohemians, particularly the 1950s Beat Generation *(see p32)*.

Neighborhood of the Beats

Start from the southwest corner of Broadway and Columbus Avenue at City Lights Bookstore ①. Owned by Beat poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti, City Lights was the first bookshop in the US to sell only paperbacks. It was author Jack Kerouac, a friend of Ferlinghetti, who coined the word "Beat," later made popular as "Beatnik."

One of the most popular Beat haunts was Vesuvio ②, south of City Lights, across Jack Kerouac Alley. Welsh poet Dylan Thomas was a patron of this watering hole, which is still a favorite of poets and artists.

Jack Kerouac

From Vesuvio continue south to Pacific Avenue and cross to the opposite side of Columbus Avenue. Walk back toward Broadway, stopping first at Tosca ③. The walls of this old-world bar and café display evocative murals of rural Tuscany, and a jukebox plays selections from Italian opera. A few steps north bring you to Adler Alley. Specs ④, an exuberant, cozy bar filled with memorabilia of the Beat era, is at No. 12.

Retrace the route to Columbus Avenue, then turn right into Broadway and walk as far as Kearny Street, taking in the hustle and bustle of Broadway.

Columbus Café ⑩

The Strip

This stretch of Broadway is known as The Strip ⑤, and is noted for its "adult entertainment." At the junction of Broadway and Grant Avenue is the former Condor Club ⑥, where the world's first topless stage show was performed in June 1964 by Carol Doda, a waitress at the club.

of Mark Hopkins on Nob Hill *(see p102)*, which burned down in the fire of 1906 *(see pp28–9)*. Today it is housed in a Spanish colonial-style building, constructed in 1926, complete with cloisters, courtyard fountain, and bell tower. The Diego Rivera Gallery, named after the Mexican muralist, sits to the left of the main entrance. The Walter and McBean Galleries are the primary exhibition venues and feature changing shows from contemporary photography and film screenings to design and technology.

Vallejo Street Stairway ⑪

Mason St and Jones St. **Map** 5 B3.
🚌 *30, 45.* 🚋 *Powell–Mason.*

The steep climb from Little Italy to the southernmost summit of Russian Hill reveals some of the city's best views of Telegraph Hill, North Beach and the encompassing bay. The street gives way to steps at Mason Street, which climb up through quiet and pretty Ina Coolbrith Park.

Higher still, above Taylor Street, there is a warren of lanes, with several Victorian-style wooden houses *(see pp76–7)*. At the crest of the hill is one of the rare pockets of the city that was not destroyed in the earthquake and fire of 1906 *(see pp28–9)*.

Club Fugazi ⑫

678 Green St. **Map** 5 B3. ***Tel*** *421-4222.* 🚌 *30, 41, 45.* ○ *Wed–Sun.*
See ***Entertainment*** *p263.*

Built in 1912 as a community hall, Club Fugazi is the home of the musical cabaret *Beach Blanket Babylon (see p263)*. This lively show, famous for its topical and outrageous songs, has been running for over two decades and has become a favorite San Francisco institution.

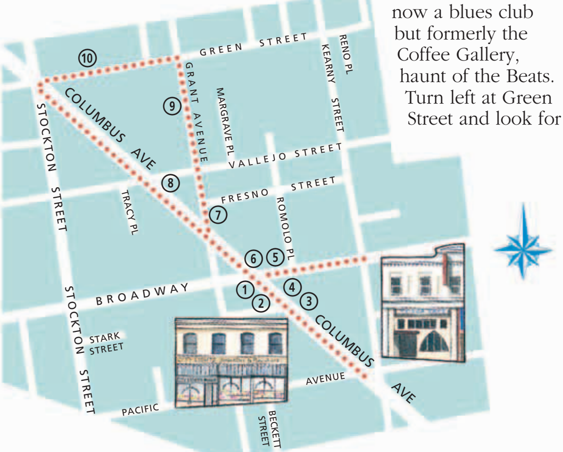
Entertainer from Club Fugazi

North Beach Beat Museum ⑬

540 Broadway. **Map** 5 B3.
Tel *(1) (800) KER-OUAC (537-6822).*
🚌 *30, 41, 45.* ○ *10am–7pm daily.* ● *public hols.* 🛍
www.thebeatmuseum.org

This offbeat museum, located next to the famous City Lights Bookstore *(see p254)*, displays all kinds of memorabilia related to the artists of the Beat Generation, who lived in San Francisco in the 1950s. Photographs, books, album covers, and letters line the walls and floors of the building. One of the highlights of the collection is a rare copy of Allen Ginsberg's 1956 book "Howl and Other Poems." The museum hosts events related to Beat culture, while the shop sells a fascinating range of books, videos, T-shirts, and posters.

Upper Grant Avenue
Turn right into Grant Avenue where you will find The Saloon ⑦ with its original 1861 bar. On the corner of Vallejo Street is Caffè Trieste ⑧, the oldest coffeehouse in San Francisco and a genuine writers' and artists' rendezvous since 1956. Very much a part of Italian-American culture, it offers live opera on Saturday afternoons. Follow Grant Avenue north past the Lost and Found Saloon ⑨, now a blues club but formerly the Coffee Gallery, haunt of the Beats. Turn left at Green Street and look for Columbus Café ⑩ and its exterior murals. Go left at Columbus Avenue, and follow this main North Beach street south past many more Italian coffeehouses, to return to your starting point.



KEY

••• Walk route

0 meters 200

0 yards 200

Vesuvio, a popular Beat bar ②

TIPS FOR WALKERS

Starting point: *Corner of Broadway and Columbus Avenue.*
Length: *1 mile (1.5 km).*
Getting there: *Muni bus No. 41 runs along Columbus Avenue.*
Stopping-off points: *All the bars and cafés mentioned are worth visiting for a drink and the atmosphere. Children are not usually allowed in bars.*

Street-by-Street: Telegraph Hill

The Fire Department Memorial

Telegraph Hill was named after the semaphore installed on its crest in 1850 to alert merchants of the arrival of ships. Today's hill falls away abruptly on its eastern side, where it was dynamited to provide rocks for landfill and paving. There are steep paths on this side of the hill, bordered by gardens. The western side slopes more gradually into "Little Italy," the area around Washington Square. In the past the hill has been home to immigrants and to artists who appreciated the panoramic views. These days the quaint pastel clapboard homes are much sought after and this is one of the city's prime residential areas.

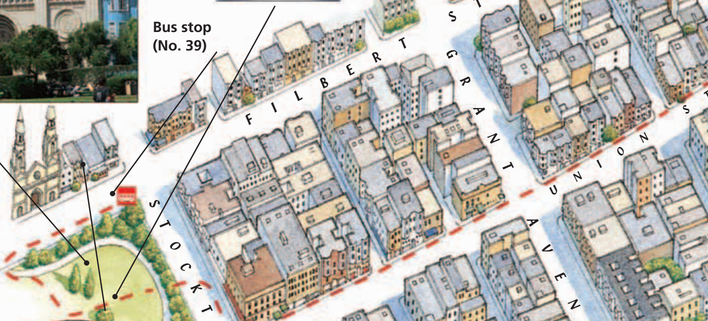
Telegraph Hill is dominated by Coit Tower. At night the tower is bathed in yellow light and is visible from many parts of the city.

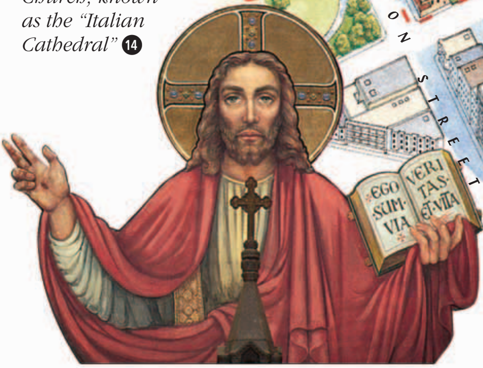
The Christopher Columbus Statue was erected in 1957.

The Statue of Benjamin Franklin stands above a time capsule planted in 1979, containing Levis, a poem and a recording of the Hoodoo Rhythm Devils.

Washington Square
This small park at the heart of Little Italy is dominated by Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, known as the "Italian Cathedral" ⑭

Bus stop (No. 39)





KEY

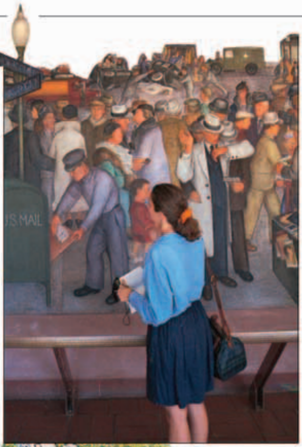
– – – Suggested route

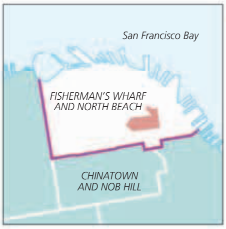
★ Saints Peter and Paul Church
The Neo-Gothic church, consecrated in 1924, has an ornate interior with this fine image of Christ in the apse ⑮

★ Coit Tower
The frescoes inside were painted by local artists in 1933, as part of the Federal Art Project set up by President Roosevelt ⓱

Bus stop (No. 39)

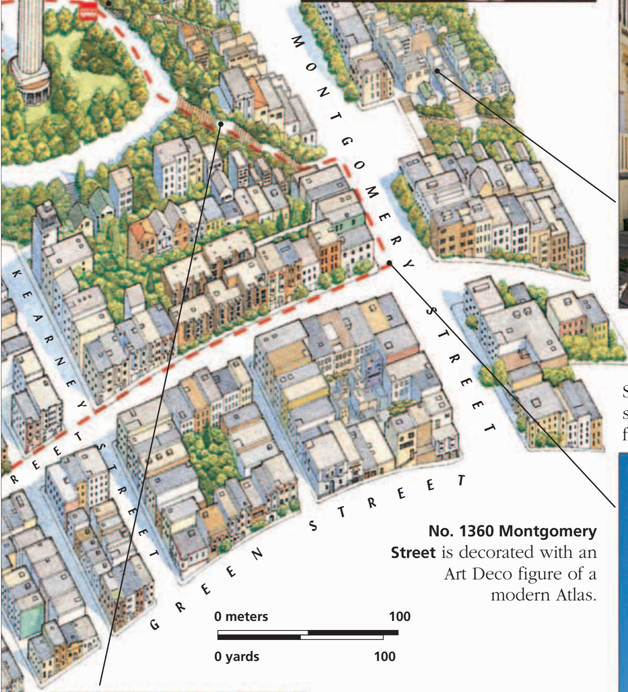
Greenwich Steps
These formally landscaped steps contrast with the charmingly rustic Filbert Steps ⓳




San Francisco Bay
FISHERMAN'S WHARF AND NORTH BEACH
CHINATOWN AND NOB HILL

LOCATOR MAP
See Street Finder, map 5

Napier Lane is a small lane lined with 19th-century cottages. It is the last of San Francisco's wooden plank streets and a tranquil retreat from the city.

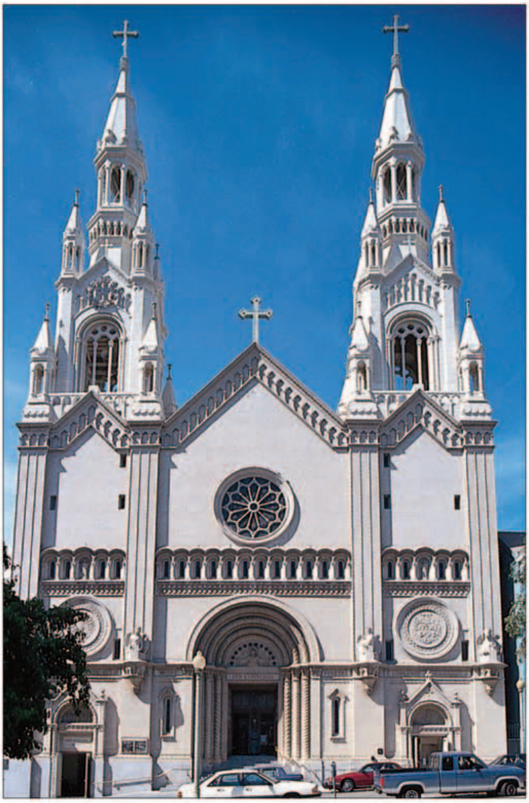

MONTGOMERY STREET
KEARNEY STREET
STREET
GREEN STREET
0 meters 100
0 yards 100

No. 1360 Montgomery Street is decorated with an Art Deco figure of a modern Atlas.

★ Filbert Steps
The descent through flower gardens down these steps gives fine views over the harbor to the East Bay ⓲

STAR SIGHTS

- ★ Saints Peter and Paul Church
- ★ Coit Tower
- ★ Filbert Steps



The façade of Saints Peter and Paul Church

Washington Square ⑭

Map 5 B2. 🚌 *30, 39, 41, 45.*

The square consists of a simple expanse of lawn, surrounded by benches and trees, set against the twin towers of Saints Peter and Paul Church. It has an almost Mediterranean atmosphere, appropriate for the "town square" of Little Italy, although the Italian community is less evident in this neighborhood now than it was when the park was first laid out in 1955. Near the center of the square stands a statue of Benjamin Franklin. A time capsule was buried under this in 1979 and is scheduled to be reopened in 2079. It is said to contain some Levi jeans, a bottle of wine and a poem by Lawrence Ferlinghetti, San Francisco's famous Beat poet *(see p88).*

Saints Peter and Paul Church ⑮

666 Filbert St. **Map** 5 B2. ***Tel*** *421-0809.* 🚌 *30, 39, 41, 45.* ○ *7:30am–4pm daily (to 1pm pub hols).* ✝ *Italian mass and choir 11:45am Sun; phone for other masses.* ♿

Still known by many as the Italian Cathedral, this large church is situated at the heart of North Beach, and many Italians find it a welcome haven when they first arrive in San Francisco. It was here that the local baseball hero, Joe Di Maggio, was photographed after his marriage to the actress Marilyn Monroe in 1957, although the actual wedding ceremony was held elsewhere. The building, designed by Charles Fantoni, has an Italianesque façade, with a complex interior notable for its many columns and ornate altar. There are also statues and mosaics illuminated by stained-glass windows. The concrete and steel structure of the church, with its twin spires, was completed in 1924.

Cecil B. DeMille filmed the workers laying the foundations of Saints Peter and Paul, and used the scene to show the building of the Temple of Jerusalem in his 1923 film *The Ten Commandments.*

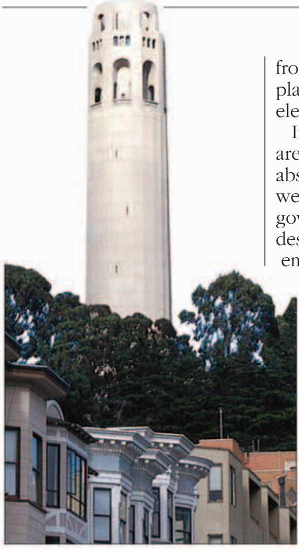
The church is sometimes known as the Fishermen's Church (many Italians once earned their living by fishing), and there is a mass to celebrate the Blessing of the Fleet in October. Masses here can be heard in Italian and Chinese, as well as English.

Bocce Ball Courts ⑯

Lombard St and Mason St, North Beach Playground. **Map** 5 B2. ***Tel*** *831-5520.* 🚌 *30, 39, 41.* 🚋 *Day–Taylor.* ○ *dawn till dusk Mon–Sat.* ♿

Italians have been influential in North Beach since the main wave of immigration from Italy in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Along with their food, customs and religion, they also brought games to their new home. Among these was *bocce*, an Italian version of lawn bowling, played on a narrower and shorter court than the English version. In North Beach it is played most afternoons on the public court in a corner of the North Beach Playground. There are four participants (or four teams), who roll a wooden ball at a smaller, target ball, at the opposite end of an earth court. The aim is for the balls to lightly "kiss" *(bocce)*, and the highest score goes to the player whose ball gets closest to this target.

Playing *bocce* at North Beach Playground



View of Coit Tower at the top of Telegraph Hill

Coit Tower ⑰

1 Telegraph Hill Blvd. **Map** 5 C2.
Tel *362-0808.* 🚌 *39.*
○ *10am–6:30pm daily.*
🎫 *to tower.* ♿ 🛍

Coit Tower was built in 1933 at the top of 284-ft-high (87-m) Telegraph Hill, with funds left to the city by Lillie Hitchcock Coit, an eccentric San Franciscan pioneer and philanthropist. The 210-ft (63-m) reinforced concrete tower was designed as a fluted column by the architect Arthur Brown. When floodlit at night it is an eerie white and can be seen from most parts of the eastern half of the city. The encircling view around the North Bay Area from the observation platform (reached by elevator) is spectacular.

In the lobby of the tower are murals that are even more absorbing *(see p140)*. These were sponsored in 1934 by a government-funded program designed to keep artists employed during the Great Depression *(see pp30–31)*. Twenty-five artists joined efforts to paint a vivid portrait of life in modern California. Scenes range from the teeming streets of the city's Financial District (with a robbery in progress) to factories, dockyards and Central Valley wheat fields.

There are many fascinating details, and viewers can find a real light switch cleverly incorporated into a painting, a poor family of migrants encamped by a river, plus newspaper headlines, magazine covers and book titles. The murals are effective social commentary and yet also whimsical in spirit. Various political themes depicting labor problems and social injustice run through them. Many of the faces in the paintings are those of the artists and their friends, along with local figures such as Colonel William Brady, caretaker of Coit Tower. The work's political content initially caused some public controversy.

Steps at the bottom of Filbert Street leading up to Telegraph Hill

Filbert Steps ⑱

Map 5 C2. 🚌 *39.*

Telegraph Hill falls away sharply on its eastern side, and the streets here become steep steps. Descending from Telegraph Hill Boulevard, Filbert Street is a rambling stairway, made of wood, brick and concrete, where fuchsia, rhododendron, bougainvillea, fennel and blackberries thrive.

Greenwich Steps ⑲

Map 5 C2. 🚌 *39.*

Descending roughly parallel to Filbert Steps, the steps of Greenwich Street have splendid views, with luxuriant foliage from adjoining gardens overflowing onto them. Going up one set of steps and down the other makes a delightful walk around the eastern side of Telegraph Hill.

Upper Montgomery Street ⑳

Map 5 C2. 🚌 *39.*

Until it was paved in 1931, the Telegraph Hill end of Montgomery Street was mostly inhabited by working-class families. There was also a sprinkling of artists and writers, attracted by the seclusion, the cheap rents and the views. It is now, however, a distinctly fashionable place to live, with some lovely walks nearby.

Julius Castle restaurant on Montgomery Street

Levi's Plaza ㉑

Map 5 C2.

This square is where the headquarters of Levi Strauss, the manufacturers of blue jeans *(see p135)*, can be found. It was landscaped by Lawrence Halprin in 1982, with the aim of recalling the company's history in California. The plaza is studded with granite rocks and cut by flowing water, thus evoking the Sierra Nevada canyon scenery in which the miners who first wore the jeans worked. Telegraph Hill in the background adds another mountainous element.

Moon Festival
月
DA
MA
LIQ
THE ART Co
DIM SUM
NO STOPPING ANY TIME
TOW-AWAY
RIGHT LANE MUST TURN RIGHT
JACKSON
ATTRACTIVE FASHION
COCKTAILS
大
全美

CHINATOWN AND NOB HILL

Chinese symbol outside the Bank of America

The Chinese settled in the plaza on Stockton Street in the 1850s, and today the shops and markets recall the atmosphere of a typical southern Chinese town, although the architecture, customs and public events are distinctly American hybrids on a Cantonese theme. This densely populated neighborhood with its colorful façades, teeming markets, temples, theaters and unique restaurants and stores, is "a city" within the city and a place most visitors want to see.

Nob Hill is San Francisco's most celebrated hilltop, famous for its cable cars, plush hotels and views. In the late 19th century, the "Big Four," who built the first transcontinental railway, were among its richest tenants, in their large mansions on the hill. The earthquake and fire of 1906 *(see pp28–9)* leveled all but one of these, but today's hotels still recall the opulence of Victorian times.

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

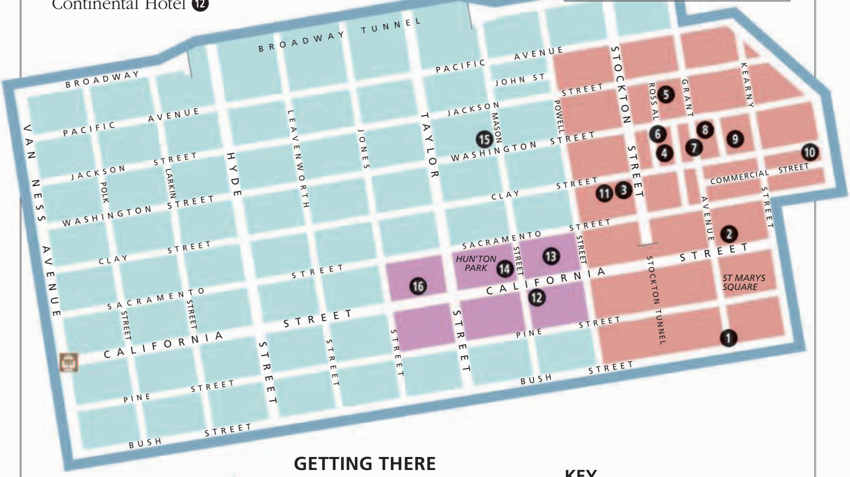
Historic Streets and Buildings
Chinatown Alleys ⑥
Chinatown Gateway ①
East West Bank ⑧
Golden Gate Fortune Cookies ⑤
Grant Avenue ⑦
The Pacific-Union Club ⑭

Historic Hotels
Fairmont Hotel ⑬
Mark Hopkins Inter-Continental Hotel ⑫

Galleries and Museums
Cable Car Museum ⑮
Chinese Historical Society of America ⑪
Pacific Heritage Museum ⑩

Churches and Temples
Grace Cathedral ⑯
Kong Chow Temple ③
Old St. Mary's Cathedral ②
Tin How Temple ④

Parks and Squares
Portsmouth Square ⑨


BROADWAY TUNNEL
BROADWAY
PACIFIC AVENUE
JOHN ST
JACKSON STREET
WASHINGTON STREET
CLAY STREET
SACRAMENTO STREET
CALIFORNIA STREET
PINE STREET
BUSH STREET
VAN NESS AVENUE
POLK
LARKIN STREET
HYDE STREET
LEAVENWORTH STREET
JONES STREET
TAYLOR STREET
MASON
POWELL STREET
STOCKTON STREET
ROSS AL
GRANT AVENUE
KEARNY STREET
COMMERCIAL STREET
STOCKTON TUNNEL
HUN'TON PARK
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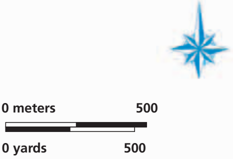

0 meters 500
0 yards 500

GETTING THERE

Visit on foot, if possible. Car drivers can sometimes park in one of the Nob Hill hotel garages, or under Portsmouth Plaza or at St. Mary's Square in Chinatown. All cable car lines go to Nob Hill and Chinatown.

KEY

🟥 Street-by-Street map *See pp96–7*
🟪 Street-by-Street map *See p101*
▨ Cable car turntable

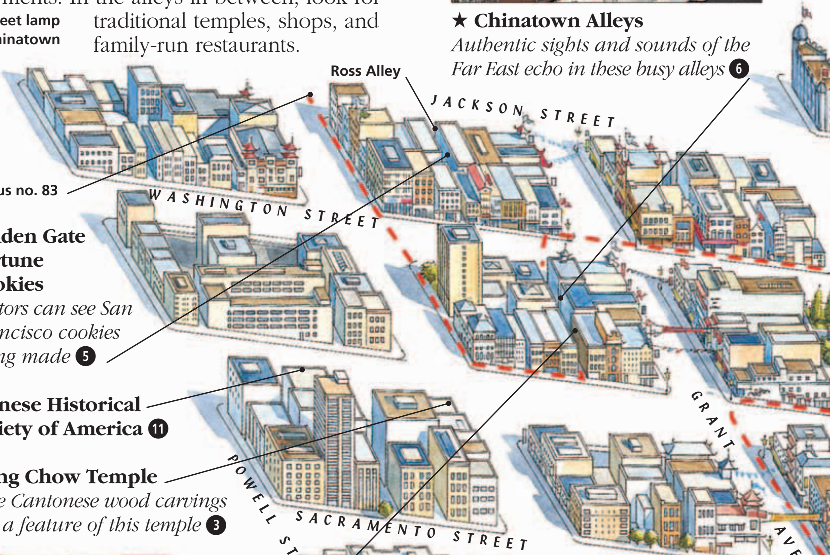
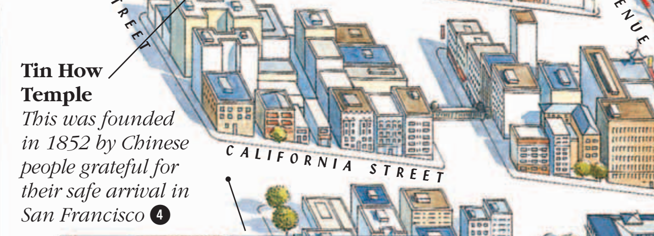
◁ **Chinatown's bustling main street, Grant Avenue**

Street-by-Street: Chinatown

Grant Avenue is the tourist Chinatown of dragon lampposts, up-turned rooflines and neighborhood hardware stores packed to the rafters with everything from kites to cooking utensils. Locals shop up the hill on Stockton Street, where the freshest vegetables, produce and fish spill over in boxes on to crowded pavements. In the alleys in between, look for traditional temples, shops, and family-run restaurants.

A street lamp in Chinatown

★ Chinatown Alleys
Authentic sights and sounds of the Far East echo in these busy alleys ❻



Ross Alley
To bus no. 83
JACKSON STREET
WASHINGTON STREET
POWELL STREET
SACRAMENTO STREET
GRANT AVENUE
CALIFORNIA STREET
STOCKTON STREET
BUSH STREET
0 meters 100
0 yards 100

Golden Gate Fortune Cookies
Visitors can see San Francisco cookies being made ❺

Chinese Historical Society of America ⓫

Kong Chow Temple
Fine Cantonese wood carvings are a feature of this temple ❸

Tin How Temple
This was founded in 1852 by Chinese people grateful for their safe arrival in San Francisco ❹

East West Bank
Between 1909 and 1946 this was home to Chinatown's telephone exchange ❽

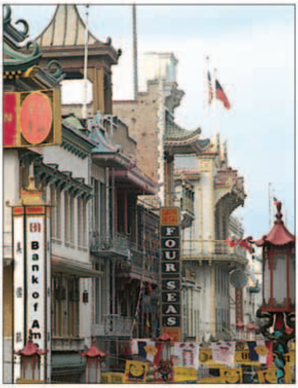
STAR SIGHTS

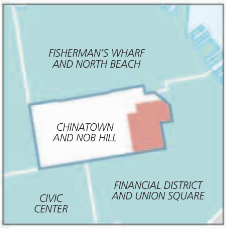
- ★ Chinatown Gateway
- ★ Chinatown Alleys
- ★ Grant Avenue

Cable cars run down two sides of Chinatown and are an essential part of the area's bustling atmosphere. Any of the three lines will take you there.

Portsmouth Plaza
Laid out in 1839, this was the social center for the village of Yerba Buena. Today it is a gathering place for players of cards and mahjong ❾

★ Grant Avenue
In the 1830s and early 1840s this was the main thoroughfare of Yerba Buena. It is now the busy commercial center of Chinatown ❼

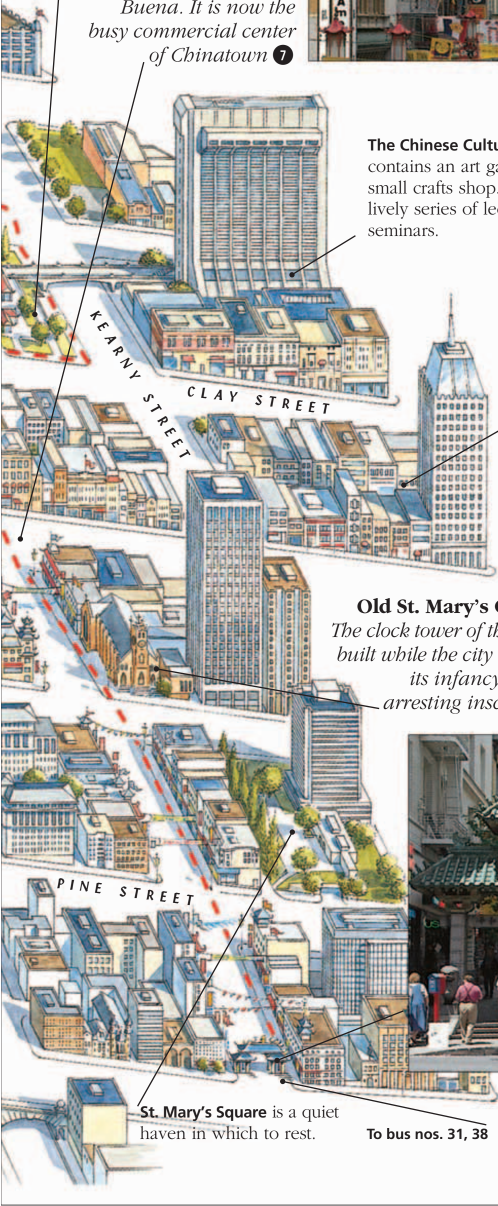

Bank of Am
FOUR SEAS


FISHERMAN'S WHARF AND NORTH BEACH
CHINATOWN AND NOB HILL
CIVIC CENTER
FINANCIAL DISTRICT AND UNION SQUARE

LOCATOR MAP
See Street Finder, map 5

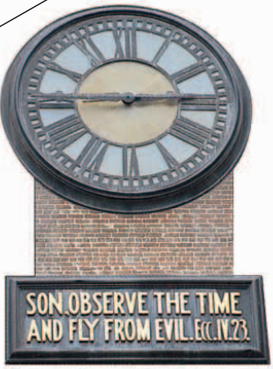
KEY

- - - Suggested route


KEARNY STREET
CLAY STREET
PINE STREET

The Chinese Cultural Center contains an art gallery and a small crafts shop. It sponsors a lively series of lectures and seminars.

Pacific Heritage Museum
Housed in an elegant building below the Bank of Canton, this small museum has fine exhibitions of Asian art that are regularly changed ❿


SON, OBSERVE THE TIME AND FLY FROM EVIL. ECC. IV.23.

Old St. Mary's Cathedral
The clock tower of this church, built while the city was still in its infancy, bears an arresting inscription ❷

St. Mary's Square is a quiet haven in which to rest.

To bus nos. 31, 38

★ Chinatown Gateway
Also known as the "Dragons' Gate," this marks Chinatown's southern entrance ❶

Chinatown Gateway ①

Grant Ave at Bush St. **Map** 5 C4. 🚌 *2, 3, 4, 30, 45.*

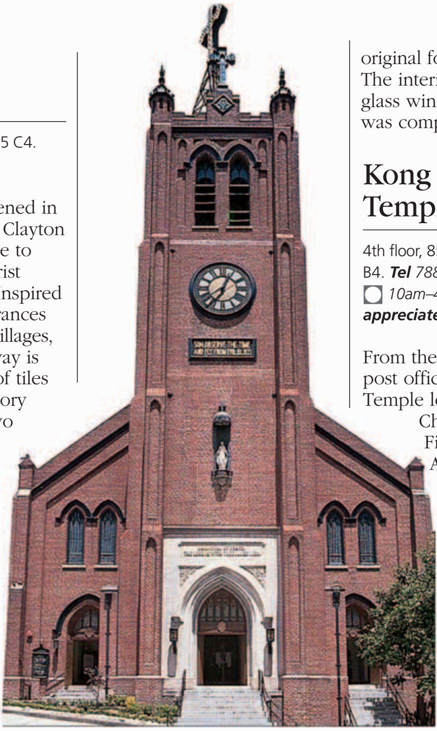
This ornate portal, opened in 1970 and designed by Clayton Lee, spans the entrance to Chinatown's main tourist street, Grant Avenue. Inspired by the ceremonial entrances of traditional Chinese villages, the three-arched gateway is capped with green roof tiles and a host of propitiatory animals – including two dragons and two carp chasing a large, round pearl – all of glazed ceramic. Village gateways are often commissioned by wealthy clans to enhance their status, and the names of these benefactors are inscribed on the gates. This structure was erected by a peculiarly American institution, the Chinatown Cultural Development Committee, with materials that were donated by the Republic of China (Taiwan).

It is guarded by two stone lions suckling their cubs through their claws, in accordance with ancient lore. Once through the gate, you find yourself among some of the most elegant shops in Chinatown. Here you can buy antiques, silks and gems, but sometimes at high prices, aimed at tourists.

Chinatown Gateway dragon

Old St. Mary's Cathedral ②

660 California St. **Map** 5 C4. ***Tel*** *288-3800.* 🚌 *1, 30, 45.* 🚋 *California St.* ***Mass*** *7:30am, 12:05pm daily; also 5pm Sat, 8:30, 11am Sun.* 🛍 **www**.oldsaintmarys.org


Entrance to Old St. Mary's Church below the clock tower

San Francisco's first Catholic cathedral, Old St. Mary's served a largely Irish congregation from 1854 to 1891, when a new St. Mary's Church was built on Van Ness Avenue. Due to the unavailability of suitable building materials in California, the bricks for the old church were imported from the East Coast, while the granite foundation stones came from China. The clock tower bears a large inscription, "Son, observe the time and fly from evil," said to have been directed at the brothels that stood across the street at the time it was built. Though twice damaged by fire, the church today retains its original foundations and walls. The interior, with its stained-glass windows and balcony, was completed in 1909.

Kong Chow Temple ③

4th floor, 855 Stockton St. **Map** 5 B4. ***Tel*** *788-1339.* 🚌 *30, 45.* ○ *10am–4pm daily.* ***Donations appreciated.*** ⊘ ♿

From the top floor above the post office, the Kong Chow Temple looks out over Chinatown and the Financial District. Although the building dates only from 1977, the temple altar and statuary are possibly the oldest Chinese religious shrine in North America. One altar is known to have been carved in Guangzhou (Canton), and shipped to San Francisco in the 19th century. The main shrine is presided over by a carved wooden statue of Kuan Di, also dating from the 19th century. He is the deity most often found in shrines in Cantonese cities.

Kuan Di is also frequently seen in Chinatown: his distinctive face looks down from Taoist shrines in many Chinatown restaurants. He is typically depicted with a large sword in one hand and a book in the other – symbols of his dedication to both the martial and the literary arts.

Carved statue of Kuan Di inside the Kong Chow Temple

Three-floor climb to the Tin How Temple, founded in 1852

Tin How Temple ❹

Top floor, 125 Waverly Pl. **Map** 5 C3. ***Tel*** *391-4841.* 🚌 *1, 30, 45.* 🕒 *9am–4pm daily.* ***Donation requested.*** 🚫

This unusual temple is dedicated to Tin How (Tien Hau), Queen of Heaven and protector of seafarers and visitors, and is the longest-operating Chinese temple in the United States. Originally founded in 1852, it is now situated at the top of three steep, wooden flights of stairs. The narrow space is smoky with incense and burnt paper offerings, and hung with hundreds of gold and red lanterns. It is lit by red electric bulbs and burning wicks floating in oil. Gifts of fruit lie on the carved altar in front of the wooden statue of the temple's namesake deity.

Golden Gate Fortune Cookies ❺

56 Ross Alley. **Map** 5 C3. ***Tel*** *781-3956.* 🚌 *30, 45.* 🕒 *10am–8:30pm daily.*

Although there are a number of fortune cookie bakeries in the San Francisco Bay area, Golden Gate Fortune Cookies has been in business longer than most, since 1962. The cookie-making machine nearly fills the small bakery, where dough is poured onto small griddles and then baked on a conveyor belt. An attendant inserts the "fortunes" (slips of paper bearing predictions of a generally positive nature). before the cookies are folded.

Ironically, the fortune cookie, despite its close association with Chinese food and culture, is a phenomenon entirely unknown in China. It was actually invented in 1909 in San Francisco's Japanese Tea Garden *(see p147)*, by the chief gardener of the time, Makota Hagiwara.

Chinatown Alleys ❻

Map 5 B3. 🚌 *1, 30, 45.*

Contained within a busy neighborhood, the Chinatown Alleys are situated between Grant Avenue and Stockton Street. These four narrow lanes intersect Washington Street within half a block of each other. Of these, the largest is Waverly Place, known as the "Street of Painted Balconies," for reasons that are apparent to every passerby. The alleys contain many old buildings, as well as traditional shops and restaurants. There are also atmospheric, old-fashioned herbalist shops, displaying elk antlers, sea horses, snake wine and other exotic wares in their windows. Small restaurants, both above and below street level, serve cheap, delicious, home-cooked food.

Final touches in the cookie factory

Grant Avenue ❼

Map 5 C4. 🚌 *1, 30, 45.* 🚋 *California St.*

The main tourist street in Chinatown, Grant Avenue is also distinguished for being the first street of Yerba Buena, the village that preceded San Francisco. A plaque at No. 823 Grant Avenue marks the block where William A. Richardson and his Mexican wife erected Yerba Buena's first edifice, a canvas tent, on June 25, 1835. By October, they had replaced this with a wooden house, and the following year with a yet more permanent adobe (sun-dried brick) home, called Casa Grande.

The street in which the Richardsons' house stood was named Calle de la Fundacion, the "Street of the Founding." It was finally renamed Grant Avenue in 1885 in memory of Ulysses S. Grant, the US president and Civil War general who died that year.

Effigy of the god of longevity on Grant Avenue

East West Bank ⑧

743 Washington St. **Map** 5 C3. ***Tel*** *421-5215.* 🚌 *1, 30, 45.* ○ *9am–5pm Mon–Thu, 9am–6pm Fri, 9am–4pm Sat.*

Before being turned into a bank in the 1950s, this building housed the Chinese Telephone Exchange. It was built in 1909 on the site where Sam Brannan printed California's first newspaper. The three-tiered tower is like a pagoda, with upward-curving eaves and a ceramic tiled roof, and is the most distinctive work of architectural chinoiserie in the neighborhood.

The telephone operators worked on the main floor and lived on the second floor. They were multilingual, speaking Cantonese and four other Chinese dialects. One of their original telephone books can be seen on display in the Chinese Historical Society on Clay Street.

BANK OF CANTON

East West Bank entrance

Portsmouth Square ⑨

Map 5 C3. 🚌 *1, 41.*

Portsmouth Square

San Francisco's original town square, now on the landscaped top of an underground garage, was laid out in 1839. It was once the social center for the small village of Yerba Buena. On July 9, 1846, less than a month after American rebels in Sonoma declared California's independence from Mexico, a party of marines rowed ashore. They raised the American flag above the plaza, officially seizing the port as part of the United States *(see pp24–5)*. Two years later, on May 12, 1848, it was here that Sam Brannan announced the discovery of gold in the Sierra Nevada *(see pp24–5)*. Over the next two decades, the plaza became the hub of an increasingly dynamic city. In the 1860s the business district shifted southeast to flatlands reclaimed from the bay, and the plaza declined in civic importance.

Portsmouth Plaza today is the social center of Chinatown. In the morning, people practice *t'ai chi*, and from midday to evening others gather to play checkers and cards.

Pacific Heritage Museum ⑩

608 Commercial St. **Map** 5 C3. ***Tel*** *399-1124.* 🚌 *1, 41.* ○ *10am–4pm Tue–Sat, except public hols.* 📷 ♿

As elegant as the frequently changing collections of Asian arts displayed within, this is actually a synthesis of two distinct buildings. The US Sub-Treasury was built here in 1875–77 by William Appleton Potter, on the site of San Francisco's original mint. You can look into the old coin vaults through a cutaway section on the ground floor, or descend in the elevator for closer inspection. In 1984 architects Skidmore, Owings and Merrill designed the 17-story headquarters of the Bank of Canton (now East West Bank) above the existing building, incorporating the original street-level façade and basement.

Chinese Historical Society of America ⑪

965 Clay St. **Map** 5 B3. ***Tel*** *391-1188.* 🚋 *Powell–Clay.* 🚌 *1, 30, 45.* ○ *noon–5pm Tue–Fri, 11am–5pm Sat.* ● *public hols.* 🎟 *except first Thu of month.* 🛍 🚫📷 **www**.chsa.org

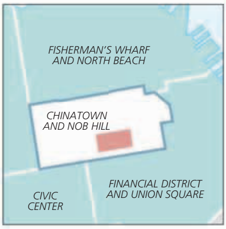
Founded in 1963, this is the oldest and largest organization dedicated to the study, documentation, and dissemination of Chinese American history. Exhibits include the Daniel Ching collection, the original hand-written Chinatown telephone book, a ceremonial dragon costume, and a "tiger fork." This triton was wielded in one of the battles during the reign of terror known as the Tong Wars. Many objects, documents, and photographs illuminate the daily life of Chinese immigrants in San Francisco in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The Chinese contribution to California's development was extensive. Chinese helped build the western half of the first transcontinental railroad and constructed dikes throughout the Sacramento River delta. The CHSA sponsors oral history projects, an "In Search of Roots" program, and a monthly speakers forum.

Dragon's head, Chinese Historical Society of America

Street-by-Street: Nob Hill

Nob Hill is the highest summit of the city center, rising 338 ft (103 m) above the bay. Its steep slopes were treacherous for carriages and kept prominent citizens away until the opening of the California Street cable car line in 1878. After that, the wealthy "nobs" soon built new homes on the peak of the hill. Though the grandiose mansions were burned down in the great fire of 1906 *(see pp28–9)*, Nob Hill still attracts the affluent to its splendid hotels.


FISHERMAN'S WHARF AND NORTH BEACH
CHINATOWN AND NOB HILL
FINANCIAL DISTRICT AND UNION SQUARE
CIVIC CENTER

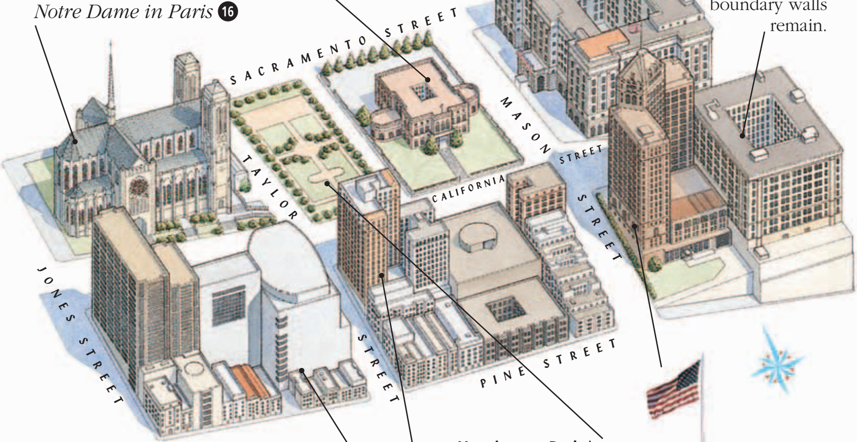
LOCATOR MAP
See Street Finder, map 5

★ Grace Cathedral
The cathedral is a replica of Notre Dame in Paris ⑯

Fairmont Hotel
This renovated hotel is known for its marble lobby and elegant dining in one of the city's best restaurants ⑬

The Pacific-Union Club
Now an exclusive men's club, this was once the mansion of Comstock millionaire James Flood ⑭

The Stanford Court, a Renaissance hotel, occupies the site of Stanford's mansion; the original boundary walls remain.


SACRAMENTO STREET
MASON STREET
TAYLOR STREET
CALIFORNIA
JONES STREET
PINE STREET

Huntington Park is on the site of Collis P. Huntington's great mansion.

The Nob Hill Masonic Auditorium honors Freemasons who died in American wars.

Huntington Hotel with its Big Four Bar and Restaurant exudes the opulent urbane atmosphere of the Victorian era on Nob Hill.

★ Mark Hopkins Inter-Continental Hotel
The hotel's Top of the Mark penthouse bar is celebrated for its spectacular views ⑫

STAR SIGHTS

- ★ Mark Hopkins Inter-Continental Hotel
- ★ Grace Cathedral

0 meters 150
0 yards 150

Mark Hopkins Inter-Continental Hotel ⑫

999 California St. **Map** 5 B4. ***Tel*** *392-3434.* 🚌 *1.* 🚋 *California St, Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde.*
www.markhopkins.net

At the behest of his wife Mary, Mark Hopkins *(see below)* arranged for a fantastic wooden mansion, surpassing every other for ostentatious ornamentation, to be built on Nob Hill *(see below)*. When Mrs. Hopkins died, the house became home to the fledgling San Francisco Art Institute. It burned in the fire of 1906 *(see pp28–9)*, and only the granite retaining walls remain. The present 25-story tower, capped by a flag visible from all over the city, was built in 1925 by architects Weeks and Day. Top of the Mark *(see p271)*, the glass-walled bar on the 19th floor, is one of the most celebrated of the city's drinking establishments. World War II servicemen customarily drank a farewell toast to the city here before leaving for overseas.

MARK HOPKINS
INTER-CONTINENTAL

Forecourt of the Mark Hopkins Inter-Continental Hotel

Fairmont Hotel ⑬

950 Mason St. **Map** 5 B4. ***Tel*** *772-5000.* 🚌 *1.* 🚋 *California St, Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde. See* ***Where to Stay*** *p213.* **www**.fairmont.com

Built by Tessie Fair Oelrichs *(see below)*, this Beaux Arts building was completed on the eve of the 1906 earthquake *(see pp28–9)*, and stood for only two days before it was burned down. It was rebuilt by Julia Morgan within the original white terracotta façade, and opened for business one year later. After World War II it was the scene of meetings that led to the founding of the United Nations. For stunning views, ride the glass-walled elevator to the city's highest observation point, the Fairmont Crown; or, enjoy a cocktail at the hotel's famed Tonga Room and Hurricane Bar.

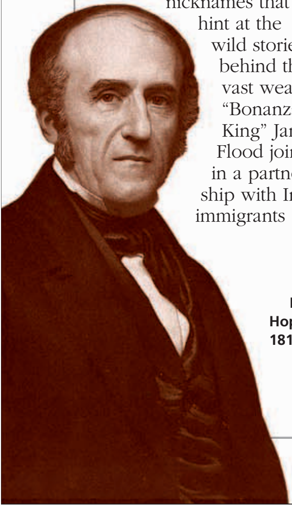
The Pacific-Union Club ⑭

1000 California St. **Map** 5 B4. ***Tel*** *775-1234.* 🚌 *1.* 🚋 *California St, Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde.* ● *to the public.*

Augustus Laver built this townhouse for the "Bonanza King" James Flood *(see below)* in 1885. Its Italianate, brown sandstone façade survived the 1906 fire *(see pp28–9)*, though the other mansions, built of wood, were destroyed. The gutted building was bought by the Pacific-Union Club, an exclusive gentlemen's club that had its origins in Gold Rush San Francisco *(see pp24–5)*.

THE NOBS OF NOB HILL

"Nob" was one of the kinder names reserved for the unscrupulous entrepreneurs who amassed vast fortunes during the development of the American West. Many of the nobs who lived on Nob Hill acquired other nicknames that hint at the wild stories behind their vast wealth. "Bonanza King" James Flood joined in a partnership with Irish immigrants James Fair, John Mackay, and William O'Brien. In 1872, the four men bought controlling interests in some dwindling Comstock mines, sinking new shafts and striking a "bonanza" – a rich pocket of high-grade silver ore. Flood returned to San Francisco as a millionaire and bought a parcel of land on the summit of Nob Hill, across the street from a plot owned by James Fair. The Flood Mansion (now the Pacific-Union Club) still stands. The monument on Fair's property, the Fairmont Hotel, was built by his daughter, Tessie, after his death *(see above)*.



Mark Hopkins 1814–78

Bonanza Jim

The Big Four

Other distinguished residents of Nob Hill were the "Big Four," Leland Stanford, Mark Hopkins, Charles Crocker and Collis P. Huntington. This shrewd quartet made up the principal investors behind the first transcontinental railway. Their biggest enterprise, the Central Pacific Railroad (it was later renamed Southern Pacific) was an influential corporation in the burgeoning West. It acquired great wealth and influence as a result of the generous land grants bestowed by the US Congress to encourage railroad construction. Bribery and corruption made the Big Four among the most hated men of 19th-century America. In this capacity, they were characterized by yet another popular nickname: the "Robber Barons." All four built big mansions on Nob Hill, but these did not survive the devastation of the 1906 earthquake and fire.

Cable Car Museum ⑮

1201 Mason St. **Map** 5 B3. ***Tel*** *474-1887.* 🚌 *1, 12, 30, 45, 83.* 🚋 *Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde.* ○ *10am–6pm daily (Oct–Mar: to 5pm).* ● *Jan 1, Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving, Dec 25.* 📷 ♿ *mezzanine only.* 🛍 **www**.cablecarmuseum.org

This is both a museum and the powerhouse of the cable car system *(see pp104–5).*

Anchored to the ground floor are the engines and wheels that wind the cables through the system of channels and pulleys beneath the streets. Observe them from the mezzanine, then walk downstairs to see under the street. The museum houses an early cable car and specimens of the mechanisms that control the individual cars. The system is the last of its kind in the world.

Entrance to San Francisco's Cable Car Museum

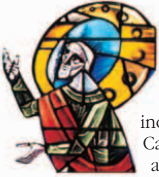
Grace Cathedral ⑯

1100 California St. **Map** 5 B4. ***Tel*** *749-6300.* 🚌 *1.* 🚋 *California St.* ✝ *Choral evensong 5:15pm Thu, 3pm Sun; Choral Eucharist 7:30am, 8:15am, 11am, 6pm Sun.* ♿ ☞ *1–3pm Mon–Fri, 11:30am–1:30pm Sat, 12:30–2pm Sun.* 🛍 **www**.gracecathedral.org

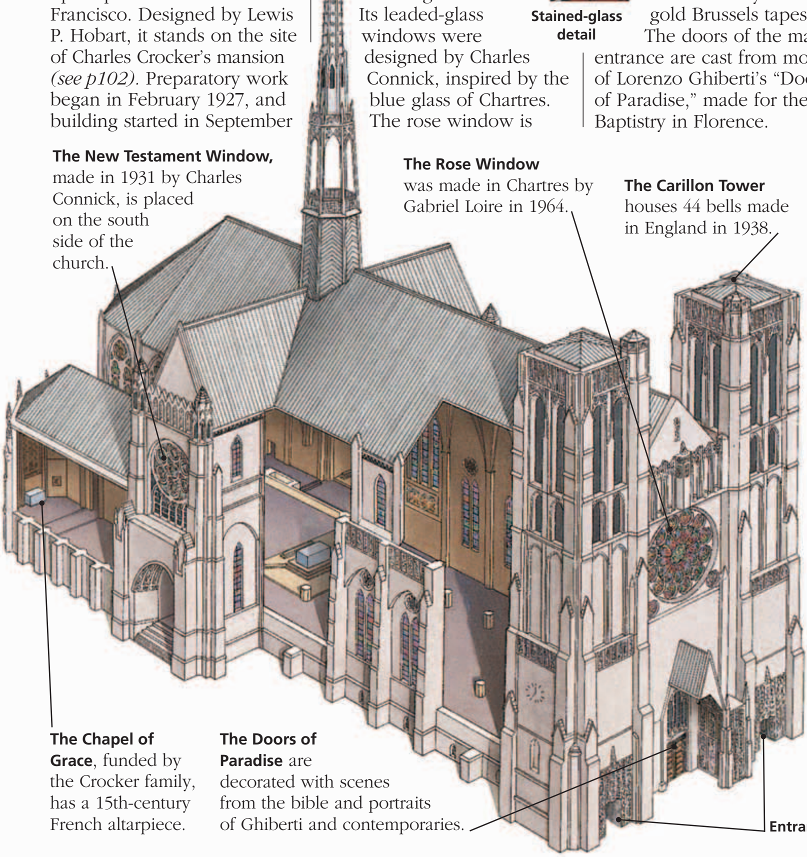
Grace Cathedral is the main Episcopal church in San Francisco. Designed by Lewis P. Hobart, it stands on the site of Charles Crocker's mansion *(see p102)*. Preparatory work began in February 1927, and building started in September 1928, but the cathedral was not finally completed until 1964. Despite its modern construction, the building was inspired by Notre Dame in Paris, incorporating traditional elements.

The interior is replete with marble and stained glass. Its leaded-glass windows were designed by Charles Connick, inspired by the blue glass of Chartres. The rose window is made using 1-inch (2.5-cm) thick faceted glass, which is illuminated from inside at night. Other windows are by Henry Willet and Gabriel Loire. These include depictions of modern heroes such as Albert Einstein.

Objects in the cathedral include a 13th-century Catalonian crucifix and a 16th-century silk and gold Brussels tapestry. The doors of the main entrance are cast from molds of Lorenzo Ghiberti's "Doors of Paradise," made for the Baptistry in Florence.



Stained-glass detail



The New Testament Window, made in 1931 by Charles Connick, is placed on the south side of the church.

The Rose Window was made in Chartres by Gabriel Loire in 1964.

The Carillon Tower houses 44 bells made in England in 1938.

The Chapel of Grace, funded by the Crocker family, has a 15th-century French altarpiece.

The Doors of Paradise are decorated with scenes from the bible and portraits of Ghiberti and contemporaries.

Entrances

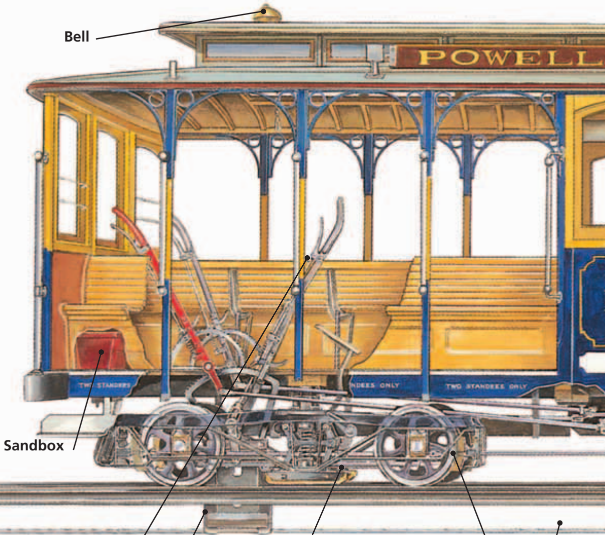
San Francisco's Cable Cars

The cable car system was launched in 1873, with its inventor Andrew Hallidie riding in the first car. He was inspired to tackle the problem of transporting people up the city's steep slopes after seeing a horrible accident: a horse-drawn tram slipped down a hill, dragging the horses with it. His system was a success, and by 1889 cars were running on eight lines. Before the 1906 earthquake *(see pp28–9)*, more than 600 cars were in use. With the advent of the internal combustion engine, cable cars became obsolete, and in 1947 attempts were made to replace them with buses. After a public outcry the present three lines, using 17 miles (25 km) of track, were retained.

Cable car traffic lights

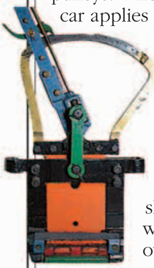
The Cable Car Barn *garages the cars at night and is a repair shop, museum and powerhouse for the entire cable car system* (see p103).

The gripman *has to be strong, with good reflexes. Only a third of candidates pass the training course.*

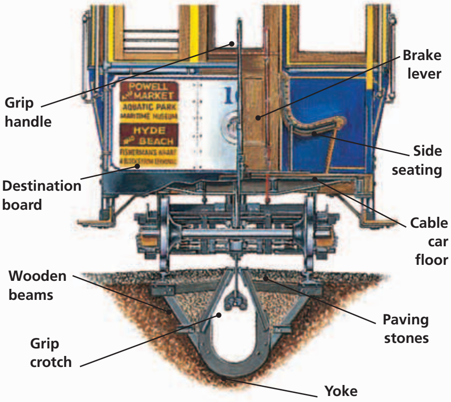

POWELL
Bell
Sandbox
Grip handle
Center plate and jaws grip the cable
Emergency brake
Wheel brake
Cable

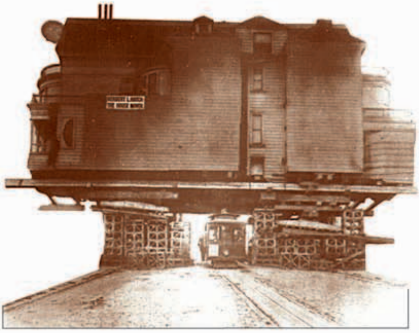
HOW CABLE CARS WORK

Engines in the central powerhouse wind a looped cable under the city streets, guided by a system of grooved pulleys. When the gripman in the cable car applies the grip handle, the grip reaches through a slot in the street and grabs the cable. This pulls the car along at a steady speed of 9.5 mph (15.5 km/h). To stop, the gripman releases the grip and applies the brake. Great skill is needed at corners where the cable passes over a pulley. The gripman must release the grip to allow the car to coast over the pulley.



Cable car grip mechanism

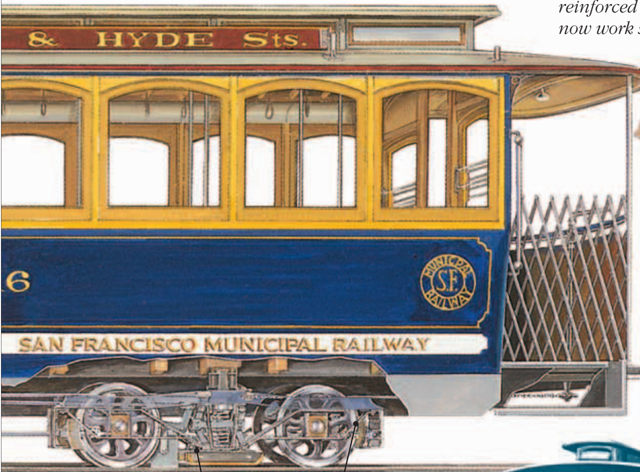

Grip handle
Destination board
Wooden beams
Grip crotch
Brake lever
Side seating
Cable car floor
Paving stones
Yoke
POWELL & MARKET
AQUATIC PARK
MARITIME MUSEUM
HYDE & BEACH
FISHERMANS WHARF



Hatch House *is the name given to a four-story house that needed moving in its entirety in 1913. Herbert Hatch used a system of jacks and hoists to maneuver the house across the cable car line without causing any cessation of the service.*

Van Ness Ave. California
59
& Market
Streets

A cable car celebration *was held in 1984 after a two-year renovation of the system. Each car was restored, and all lines were replaced with reinforced tracks. The system should now work safely for 100 years.*



A cable car bell-ringing contest *is held in Union Square every July, when conductors ring out their most spirited rhythms. On the street, the bell signals a warning to other traffic.*

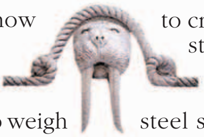
The original *San Francisco cable car, tested by Hallidie on Clay Street on August 2, 1873, is on display in the Cable Car Barn* (see p103). *The cable car system has remained essentially unchanged since its invention.*

Rebuilding the cable cars *is done with attention to historical detail because they are designated historic monuments.*

ANDREW SMITH HALLIDIE

Andrew Smith was born in London in 1836 and later adopted his uncle's surname. He trained as a mechanic, moving to San Francisco in 1852, where he formed a company that made wire rope. In 1873 he tested the first cable car, which soon became profitable and opened the hills of the city to development.

FINANCIAL DISTRICT AND UNION SQUARE



Motif on Union Bank

Montgomery Street, now in the heart of the Financial District, was once a street of small shops, where miners came to weigh their gold dust. It roughly marks the old shoreline of the shallow Yerba Buena Cove, which was filled in during the Gold Rush years *(see pp24–5)* to create more land. Today, old-style banking halls from the early 20th century stand in the shadow of glass and steel skyscrapers, and crowds of office workers throng the streets. Union Square is at the center of the city's main shopping district, and has a wealth of fine department stores.

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Historic Streets and Buildings

California Historical Society ⑪
Ferry Building ⑩
Jackson Square Historical District ②
Merchant's Exchange ⑦
Old United States Mint ㉕
Pacific Coast Stock Exchange ⑧
Powell Street Cable Car Turntable ㉓
Union Bank of California ⑥

Museums and Galleries

Contemporary Jewish Museum ⑭
Museum of African Diaspora ⑫
Museum of Modern Art pp118–21 ⑯
Wells Fargo History Museum ③

Modern Architecture

555 California ④
Embarcadero Center ①
Rincon Center ⑬
Transamerica Pyramid ⑤
Yerba Buena Gardens pp114–15 ⑮

Hotels

Sheraton Palace Hotel ⑰

Visitors Information

San Francisco Visitor Information Center ㉖

Shops

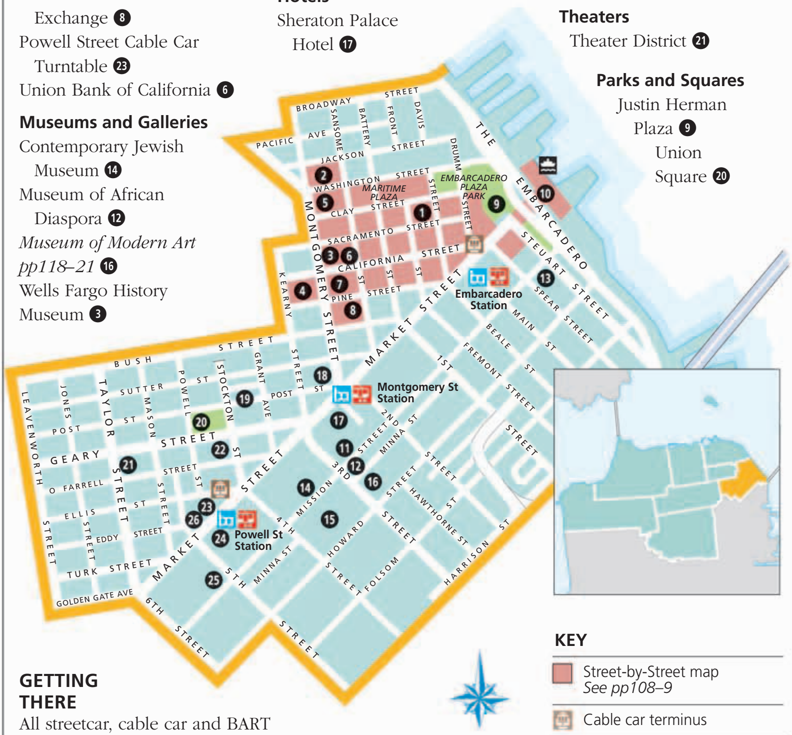
Crocker Galleria ⑱
Gump's ⑲
Union Square Shops ㉒
Westfield Shopping Centre ㉔

Theaters

Theater District ㉑

Parks and Squares

Justin Herman Plaza ⑨
Union Square ⑳


BROADWAY
STREET
PACIFIC
AVE
SANSOME
BATTERY
FRONT
DAVIS
STREET
JACKSON
WASHINGTON
MARITIME PLAZA
STREET
CLAY
STREET
EMBARCADERO PLAZA PARK
DRUMM STREET
THE EMBARCADERO
SACRAMENTO
STREET
CALIFORNIA
STREET
MONTGOMERY STREET
KEARNY
PINE
ST
ST
STEUART STREET
SPEAR STREET
MAIN ST
BEALE ST
FREMONT STREET
1ST STREET
MARKET STREET
Embarcadero Station
Montgomery St Station
2ND ST
MINNA ST
STREET
3RD STREET
HAWTHORNE ST
MISSION STREET
HOWARD STREET
FOLSOM ST
HARRISON ST
4TH ST
MINNA ST
5TH STREET
6TH STREET
Powell St Station
MARKET STREET
BUSH STREET
SUTTER ST
POST ST
GRANT AVE
STOCKTON ST
POWELL ST
MASON ST
TAYLOR STREET
JONES STREET
LEAVENWORTH STREET
POST
GEARY STREET
O FARRELL STREET
ELLIS ST
EDDY STREET
TURK STREET
GOLDEN GATE AVE
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26

0 meters 400
0 yards 400

GETTING THERE

All streetcar, cable car and BART lines, and most ferries and bus lines, converge at some point on Market Street – the heart of this section. From Market Street, bus lines reach all parts of the district.

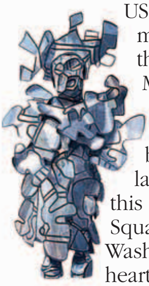
KEY

▨ Street-by-Street map *See pp108–9*
▨ Cable car terminus
▨ BART station
▨ Streetcar station
▨ Ferry terminus

◁ **Interior of the Hyatt Regency Hotel, showing *Eclipse*, a sculpture by Charles Perry**

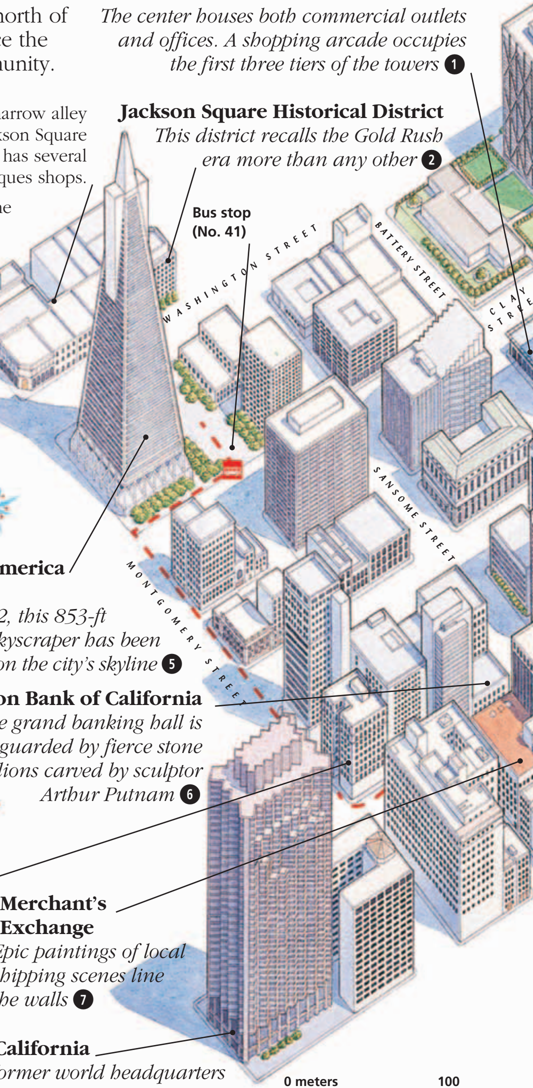
Street-by-Street: Financial District

San Francisco's economic engine is fueled predominantly by the Financial District, one of the chief commercial centers in the US. It reaches from the imposing modern towers and plazas of the Embarcadero Center to staid Montgomery Street, sometimes known as the "Wall Street of the West." All the principal banks, brokers, exchanges and law offices are situated within this compact area. The Jackson Square Historical District, north of Washington Street, was once the heart of the business community.



***La Chiffonière* (1978) by Jean Dubuffet, Justin Herman Plaza**

★ Embarcadero Center
The center houses both commercial outlets and offices. A shopping arcade occupies the first three tiers of the towers ❶



Jackson Square Historical District
This district recalls the Gold Rush era more than any other ❷

Hotaling Place, a narrow alley leading to the Jackson Square Historical District, has several good antiques shops.

Bus stop (No. 41)

The Golden Era Building, was built during the Gold Rush. It was the home of the paper *Golden Era*, for which Mark Twain wrote.

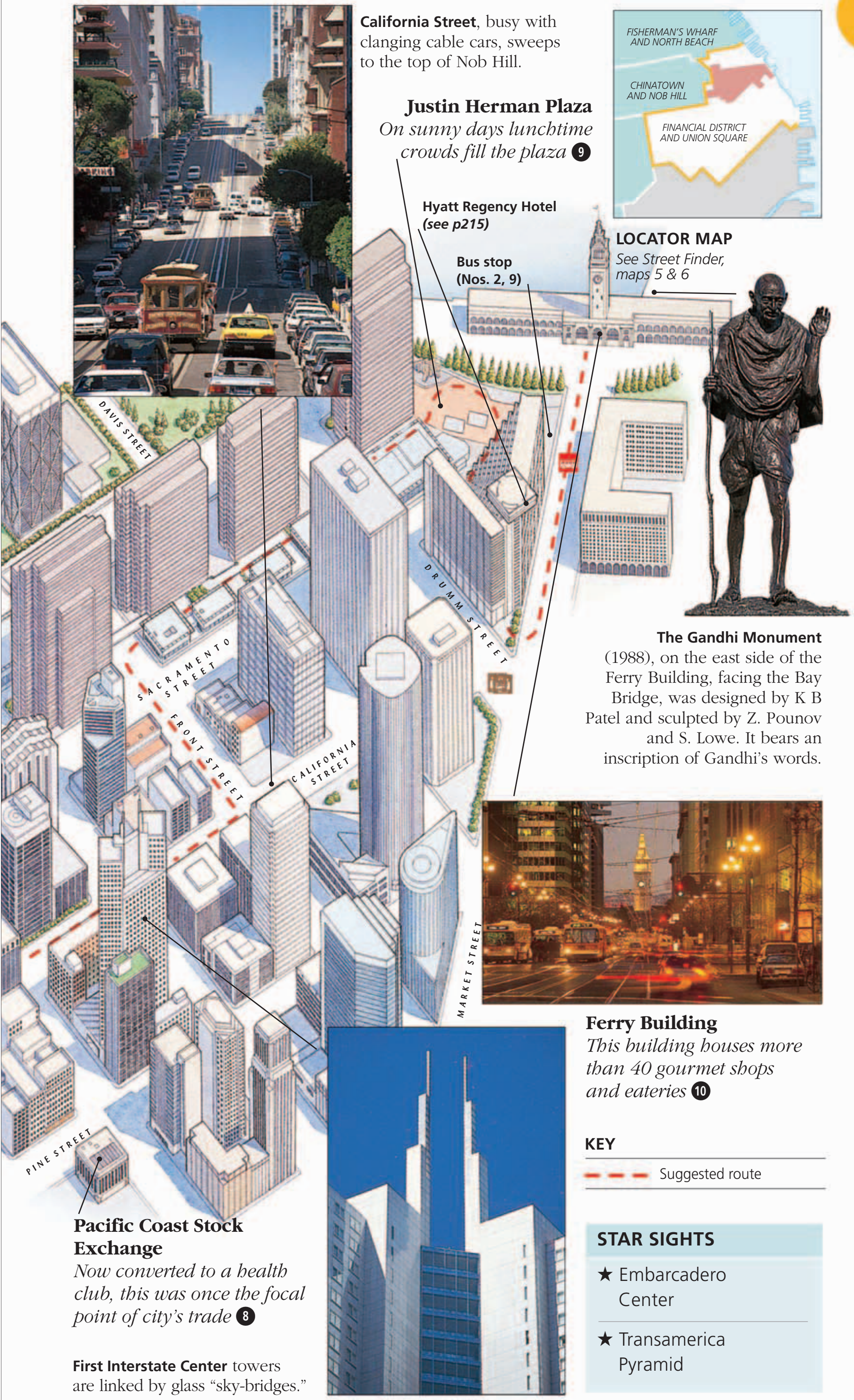
★ Transamerica Pyramid
Since 1972, this 853-ft (256-m) skyscraper has been the tallest on the city's skyline ❺

Union Bank of California
The grand banking hall is guarded by fierce stone lions carved by sculptor Arthur Putnam ❻

Merchant's Exchange
Epic paintings of local shipping scenes line the walls ❼

Wells Fargo History Museum
An original stagecoach, evoking the wilder days of the old West, is one of the many exhibits in this transportation and banking museum ❸

555 California
The former world headquarters of Bank of America was the city's tallest skyscraper until 1972 ❹


DAVIS STREET
SACRAMENTO STREET
FRONT STREET
CALIFORNIA STREET
DRUMM STREET
MARKET STREET
PINE STREET
FISHERMAN'S WHARF AND NORTH BEACH
CHINATOWN AND NOB HILL
FINANCIAL DISTRICT AND UNION SQUARE

California Street, busy with clanging cable cars, sweeps to the top of Nob Hill.

Justin Herman Plaza
On sunny days lunchtime crowds fill the plaza ⑨

Hyatt Regency Hotel *(see p215)*

Bus stop (Nos. 2, 9)

LOCATOR MAP
See Street Finder, maps 5 & 6

The Gandhi Monument (1988), on the east side of the Ferry Building, facing the Bay Bridge, was designed by K B Patel and sculpted by Z. Pounov and S. Lowe. It bears an inscription of Gandhi's words.

Ferry Building
This building houses more than 40 gourmet shops and eateries ⑩

KEY

— — —	Suggested route

STAR SIGHTS

- ★ Embarcadero Center
- ★ Transamerica Pyramid

Pacific Coast Stock Exchange
Now converted to a health club, this was once the focal point of city's trade ⑧

First Interstate Center towers are linked by glass "sky-bridges."

Embarcadero Center ❶

Map 6 D3. 🚌 *1, 32.* 🚋 *J, K, L, M, N.* 🚃 *California St. See* ***Shopping in San Francisco*** *p245 and* ***Where to Stay*** *p215.*

Completed in 1981 after a decade of construction, San Francisco's largest redevelopment project reaches from Justin Herman Plaza to Battery Street. Four separate high-rise towers reach upward 35 to 40 stories above the landscaped plazas and elevated walkways.

Embarcadero Center's most spectacular interior is the lobby of the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Its 17-story atrium contains an immense sculptured globe by Charles Perry, entitled *Eclipse*. Glass elevators glide up and down one wall, carrying visitors to and from the Equinox, a revolving rooftop restaurant that completes a full circle every 40 minutes. Also housed in the center is a cinema screening an impressive array of independent and foreign films.

Lobby of the Hyatt Regency Hotel at the Embarcadero Center

Hotaling Place in Jackson Square

Jackson Square Historical District ❷

Map 5 C3. 🚌 *12, 41, 83.*

Renovated in the early 1950s, this low-rise neighborhood contains many historic brick, cast-iron and granite façades dating from the Gold Rush era. From 1850–1910, it was notorious for its squalor and the crudeness of its inhabitants and was known as the Barbary Coast *(see pp26–7)*. The Hippodrome at 555 Pacific Street used to be a theater; the bawdy relief sculptures in the recessed front recall the risqué shows that were performed there. Today the buildings are used as showrooms, law offices and antique shops; the best can be seen on Jackson Street, Gold Street, Hotaling Place and Montgomery Street.

Wells Fargo History Museum ❸

420 Montgomery St. **Map** 5 C4.
Tel *396-2619.* 🚌 *1, 12, 41.*
🚃 *California St.* 🚇 *Montgomery*
○ *9am–5pm Mon–Fri.*
● *public hols.* ♿ 🛍
www.wellsfargohistory.com

Founded in 1852, Wells Fargo & Co. became the greatest banking and transport company in the West and was influential in the development of the American frontier. The company moved people and goods from the East to the West Coast, and between California mining camps and towns. It also transported gold from the West Coast to the East and delivered mail. Wells Fargo put mail boxes in convenient locations and messengers sorted the letters en route. The Pony Express was another mail venture in which Wells Fargo played a major role.

The splendid stage coaches *(see p108)*, like the one on display in the museum, are famous for the legendary stories of their heroic drivers and the bandits who robbed them. The best-known bandit was Black Bart, who left poems at the scene of his crimes. He stalked the lonely roads from Calaveras County to the Oregon border between 1875 and 1883, holding up stage coaches. In one hold-up he mistakenly left a handkerchief with a distinctive laundry mark, revealing him to be a mining engineer named Charles Boles.

Museum visitors can experience how it felt to sit for days in a jostling stage coach, and listen to the recorded diary of Francis Brocklehurst, an immigrant. Exhibits include Pony Express mail, photographs, early checks, weaponry, and gold nuggets.

Black Bart, the poet bandit

555 California ❹

555 California St. **Map** 5 C4.
🚌 *1, 41.* 🚋 *Montgomery.*

Formerly the global headquarters of Bank of America, this red granite-clad building symbolized the importance and power of the banking industry. Completed in 1969, its 52 stories made it at one time the tallest skyscraper in San Francisco. There are incredible views of the city from the 52nd floor.

The Bank of America was originally the Bank of Italy, founded by A. P. Giannini in San Jose, California. It built up a huge clientèle early in the 20th century by catering to immigrants and by investing in the booming farmlands and small towns. In the great fire of 1906 *(see pp28–9)* Giannini personally rescued his bank's deposits, carting them to safety hidden in fruit crates, so there were sufficient funds for the bank to invest in the rebuilding of the city.

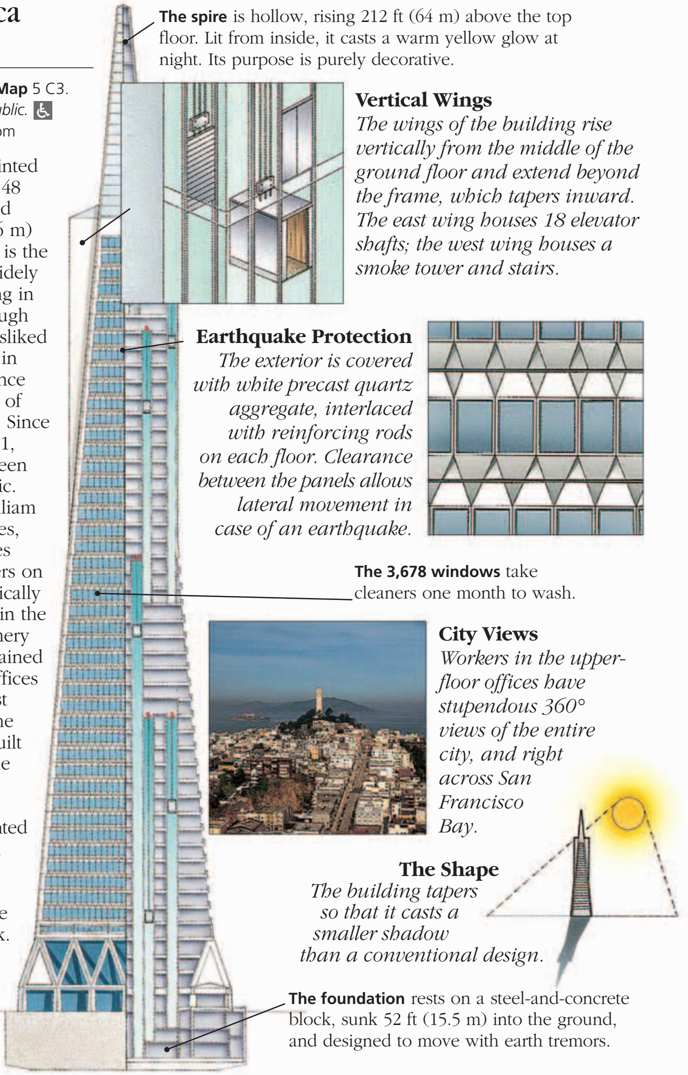
Transcendence **by Masayuki Nagari outside 555 California**

Transamerica Pyramid ❺

600 Montgomery St. **Map** 5 C3.
🚌 *1, 41.* ● *to the public.* ♿
www.transamerica.com

Capped with a pointed spire on top of its 48 stories, the pyramid reaches 853 ft (256 m) above sea level. It is the tallest and most widely recognized building in the city, and although San Franciscans disliked it when it opened in 1972, they have since accepted it as part of their city's skyline. Since September 11, 2001, the pyramid has been closed to the public.

Designed by William Pereira & Associates, the pyramid houses 1,500 office workers on a site that is historically one of the richest in the city. The Montgomery Block, which contained many important offices and was the largest building west of the Mississippi, was built here in 1853. In the basement was the Exchange Saloon, which was frequented by Mark Twain. In the 1860s artists and writers took up residence in the Montgomery Block. The Pony Express terminus, marked by a plaque, was at Merchant Street opposite the pyramid.



The spire is hollow, rising 212 ft (64 m) above the top floor. Lit from inside, it casts a warm yellow glow at night. Its purpose is purely decorative.

Vertical Wings

The wings of the building rise vertically from the middle of the ground floor and extend beyond the frame, which tapers inward. The east wing houses 18 elevator shafts; the west wing houses a smoke tower and stairs.

Earthquake Protection

The exterior is covered with white precast quartz aggregate, interlaced with reinforcing rods on each floor. Clearance between the panels allows lateral movement in case of an earthquake.

The 3,678 windows take cleaners one month to wash.

City Views

Workers in the upper-floor offices have stupendous 360° views of the entire city, and right across San Francisco Bay.

The Shape

The building tapers so that it casts a smaller shadow than a conventional design.

The foundation rests on a steel-and-concrete block, sunk 52 ft (15.5 m) into the ground, and designed to move with earth tremors.

Classical façade of the Union Bank of California

Union Bank of California ❻

400 California St. **Map** 5 C4.
Tel *765-0400.* 🚌 *1, 41.*
🚋 *California St.* ♿ 🚫

William Ralston and Darius Mills founded this bank in 1864. Ralston, known as "the man who built San Francisco," invested profitably in Comstock mines *(see p27)*. He, in turn, used the bank and his personal fortune to finance many civic projects in San Francisco. These included the city's water company, a theater and the Palace Hotel *(see p113)*. However, when economic depression struck in the 1870s, Ralston's empire also collapsed.

The present colonnaded building was completed in 1908. In the basement there is a pleasant arcade of shops, restaurants and small art and photography exhibits.

Merchant's Exchange ❼

465 California St. **Map** 5 C4.
Tel *421-7730.* 🚌 *1, 3, 4, 10, 15.*
🚋 *Montgomery.* ○ *8:30am–6pm Mon–Fri, 9am–6pm Sat & Sun by appt only.* ● *public hols.* ♿ 🚫
www.merchantsexchange.com

The exchange, designed by Willis Polk in 1903, survived the great fire of 1906 with little damage. Inside, fine seascapes by the Irish painter William Coulter line the walls. These depict epic maritime scenes from the age of steam and sail. The building was the focal point of San Francisco's commodities exchange in the early 20th century, when lookouts in the tower relayed news of ships arriving from abroad.

Pacific Coast Stock Exchange ❽

301 Pine St. **Map** 5 C4. ***Tel*** *954-5500.*
🚌 *3, 4, 41.* ● *to the public.*
www.pacificex.com

This was once America's largest stock exchange outside New York. Founded in 1882, it occupied these buildings, which were remodeled by Miller and Pflueger in 1930 from the existing US Treasury. The monumental granite statues that flank the Pine Street entrance to the building were made by Ralph Stackpole, also in 1930. Due to changing trading methods, the building is no longer a stock exchange and has been converted into a fitness club.

Justin Herman Plaza ❾

Map 6 D3. 🚌 *many buses.*
🚊 *J, K, L, M, N.* 🚋 *California St.*

Popular with lunchtime crowds from the nearby Embarcadero Center and other offices, this plaza is mostly known for its avant-garde Vaillancourt Fountain, made in 1971 by the Canadian artist Armand Vaillancourt. The fountain is modeled from huge concrete blocks, and some people find it ugly, especially when it is allowed to run dry in times of drought. However, you can climb on and through it, and its pools and columns of falling water make it an intriguing public work of art when it is functioning as intended.

The Vaillancourt Fountain in Justin Herman Plaza

The clock tower on the Ferry Building

Ferry Building ❿

Embarcadero at Market St. **Map** 6 E3. 🚌 *many buses.* 🚊 *J, K, L, M, N.*
🚋 *California St.*

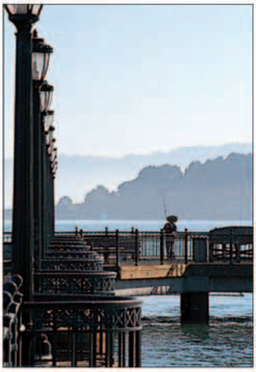
Constructed between 1896 and 1903, the Ferry Building survived the great fire of 1906 *(see pp28–9)* through the intercession of fireboats pumping water from the bay. The clock tower is 235 ft (71 m) high, and was inspired by the Moorish bell tower of Seville Cathedral. In the early 1930s more than 50 million passengers a year passed through the building. The Ferry Building now houses many gourmet shops selling a huge variety of fresh produce, as well as several restaurants and eateries. On Tuesdays and Saturdays, a Farmers' Market is held around the outside of the building.

With the opening of the Bay Bridge in 1936, the Ferry Building ceased to be the city's main point of entry. Today, only a few ferries cross the bay to Larkspur and Sausalito in Marin County *(see p161)*, and Alameda and Oakland in the East Bay *(see pp164–7)*.

California Historical Society ⑪

678 Mission St. **Map** 6 D5. ***Tel*** *357-1848.* 🚌 *5, 9, 38.* 🚋 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* 🚇 *Montgomery.* ○ *noon–4:30pm Wed–Sat (library closed Sat).* **www**.californiahistoricalsociety.org

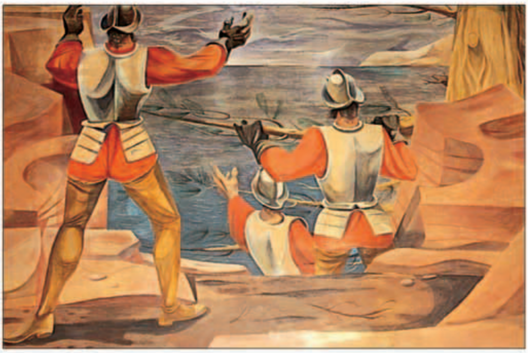
The society provides research libraries, museum galleries, and a bookstore. There is an impressive photographic collection, more than 900 paintings and watercolors by American artists, a decorative arts exhibit, and a unique costume collection.



Fishing in the harbor

Museum of the African Diaspora ⑫

685 Mission St. **Map** 5 C5. ℹ *358-7200.* 🚌 *7, 9, 21, 38, 71.* 🚋 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* ○ *11am–6pm Wed–Sat.* ● *major hols.* **www**.moadsf.org



Rincon Annex mural depicting the Spanish discovery of San Francisco

The central idea of this museum is that we all share a common African past. Exhibits cover African music, culinary traditions, and explain the slave trade. There are also interactive exhibits, lectures, and workshops.

Rincon Center ⑬

Map 6 B4. 🚌 *14. See **Shopping in San Francisco** p245.*

This shopping center, with its soaring atrium, was added onto the old Rincon Annex Post Office Building in 1989. The Rincon Annex is known for its murals by Anton Refregier showing aspects of the city's history.

Contemporary Jewish Museum ⑭

736 Mission St. **Map** 5 C5. ***Tel*** *655-7800.* 🚌 *7, 9, 21, 38, 71.* 🚋 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* ○ *11am–5pm Fri–Tue, 1–8pm Thu.* ● *major Jewish holidays, Jan 1, Jul 4, Thanksgiving.* ♿ 🛍 ✋ ▭ **www**.thecjm.org

This museum partners with national and international cultural institutions to present a variety of art, photography, and installations celebrating and exploring Judaism.

Yerba Buena Gardens ⑮

See pp114–15.

Museum of Modern Art ⑯

See pp118–21.

Sheraton Palace Hotel ⑰

2 New Montgomery St. **Map** 5 C4. ***Tel*** *512-1111.* 🚌 *7, 9, 21, 31, 66, 71.* 🚋 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* *See **Where to Stay** p215.*

The original Palace Hotel was opened by William Ralston, one of San Francisco's best-known financiers, in 1875. It was the most luxurious of San Francisco's early hotels and was regularly frequented by the rich and famous. Among its patrons were Sarah Bernhardt, Oscar Wilde, and Rudyard Kipling. The celebrated tenor Enrico Caruso was a guest at the time of the earthquake of 1906 *(see pp28–9)*, when the hotel caught fire. It was rebuilt by the architect George Kelham, and reopened in 1909.

The Garden Court at the Sheraton Palace Hotel

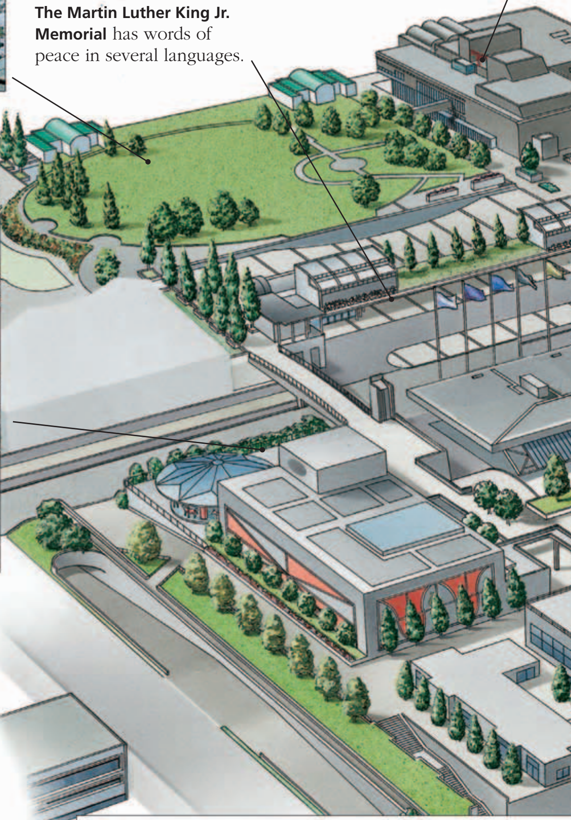
Yerba Buena Gardens ⑮

The construction of the Moscone Center, San Francisco's largest venue for conventions, was just the first in a series of ambitious development plans for Yerba Buena Gardens. Housing, hotels, museums, shops, galleries, restaurants, and gardens have since followed, making this area a vibrant hub of activity. World-class art programs and events take place in the meadow between May and October.

★ Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
Galleries, Forum and a screening room featuring contemporary films and videos are the highlights.

Esplanade Gardens
Visitors can wander along the paths or, in the summer, catch a free event.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial has words of peace in several languages.



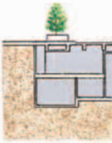
Zeum
Zeum is located at the Yerba Buena Rooftop. It has an ongoing program of events and provides opportunities for youngsters and artists to collaborate in the design and creation of anything from airplanes, robots, and futuristic buildings to mosaics and sculptures.

STAR SIGHTS

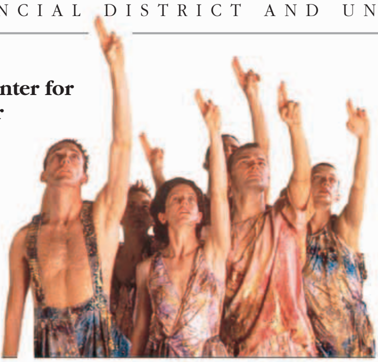
- ★ Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
- ★ SF Museum of the Modern Art

MOSCONE CENTER

Engineer TY Lin found an ingenious way to support the children's center above this huge underground hall without a single interior column. The bases of the eight steel arches are linked, like an archer's bowstrings, by cables under the floor. By tightening the cables, the arches exert enormous upward thrust.

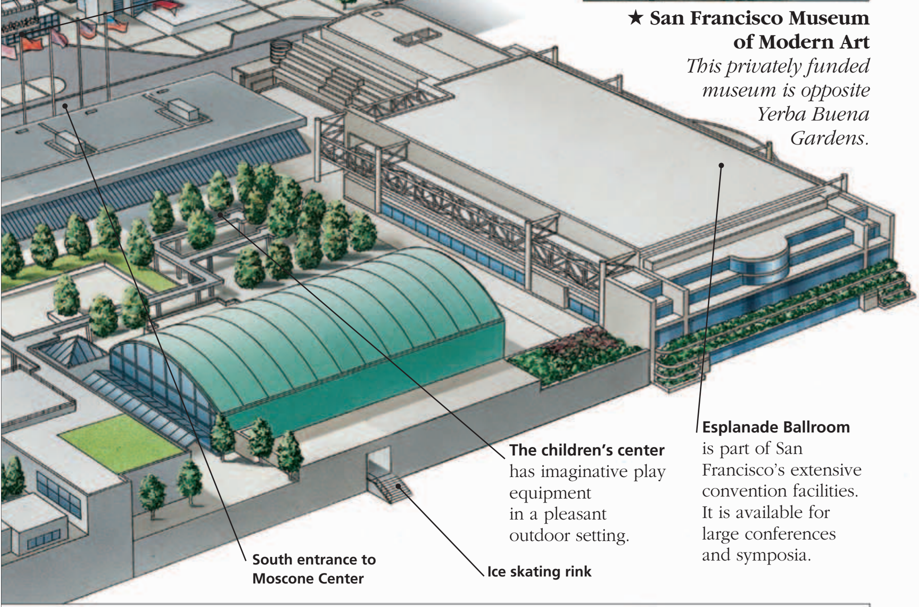


Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater
Performing arts reflecting the cultural diversity of San Francisco are presented in the 755-seat indoor theater. There is also an outdoor theater.



VISITORS' CHECKLIST

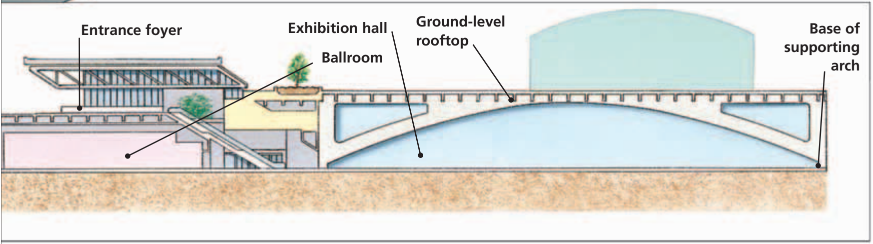
Mission, 3rd, Folsom and 4th Sts. **Map** 5 C5. ☎ *978-2787.* 🚌 *9, 14, 15, 30, 45, 76.* 🚋 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* **Zeum** ☎ *820-3320.* ○ *11am–5pm Tue–Sun (summer), 1–5pm Wed–Fri & 11am–5pm Sat & Sun (school year).* ● *Jul 4, Dec 25.* 🎟 ♿ 🛍 **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts** ☎ *978-2700.* ○ *noon–5pm Tue–Sun (to 8pm Thu–Sat).* ● *pub hols.* 🎟 *(free first Tue of month).* ⊘ ♿ ☕ **SF MOMA** *(see pp118–21).* **www**.yerbabuena.org


East Garden
North entrance to Moscone Center
South entrance to Moscone Center
Ice skating rink

The children's center has imaginative play equipment in a pleasant outdoor setting.

Esplanade Ballroom is part of San Francisco's extensive convention facilities. It is available for large conferences and symposia.

★ San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
This privately funded museum is opposite Yerba Buena Gardens.


Entrance foyer
Exhibition hall
Ballroom
Ground-level rooftop
Base of supporting arch

Central plaza of the Crocker Galleria

Crocker Galleria ⑱

Between Post, Kearny, Sutter and Montgomery Sts. **Map** 5 C4. 🚌 *2, 3, 4.* 🚇 *J, K, L, M, N, T. See* ***Shopping in San Francisco*** *p245.*

The Crocker Galleria was built in 1982, by architects Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. Inspired by the Galleria Vittorio Emmanuelle in Milan, this building features a central plaza under a vaulting skylight roof. More than 50 shops and restaurants are housed here on three floors, with displays promoting the best of American and European designers.

Gump's ⑲

135 Post St. **Map** 5 C4. ***Tel*** *982-1616.* 🚌 *2, 3, 4, 30, 38, 45.* 🚇 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* 🚋 *Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde.* ○ *10am–6pm Mon–Sat, noon–5pm Sun.* ♿ *See* ***Shopping in San Francisco*** *p249.*

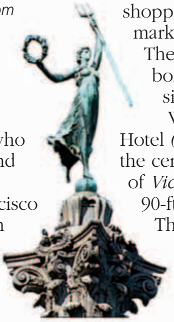
Founded in 1861 by German immigrants who were former mirror and frame merchants, this homegrown San Francisco department store is an institution. Many local couples register their wedding present list with the store. Gump's has the largest collection in the US of fine china and crystal, which includes famous names such as Baccarat, Steuben and Lalique.

The store is also celebrated for its oriental treasures, furniture, and the rare works of art in the art department. The Asian art is particularly fine, especially the remarkable jade collection, which enjoys a worldwide reputation. In 1949 Gump's imported the great bronze Buddha and presented it to the Japanese Tea Garden *(see p147)*. Gump's has an exclusive, refined atmosphere and is frequented by the rich and famous. It is renowned for its colorful and extravagant window displays.

Union Square ⑳

Map 5 C5. 🚌 *2, 3, 4, 30, 38, 45.* 🚇 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* 🚋 *Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde.*

Union Square was named for the big, pro-Union rallies held there during the Civil War of 1861–65. The rallies galvanized popular support in San Francisco for the Northern cause, and this was instrumental in bringing California into the war on the side of the Union. The square is at the heart of the city's shopping district and marks the edge of the Theater District. It is bordered on the west side by the famous Westin St. Francis Hotel *(see p216)*, and at the center there is a statue of *Victory* at the top of a 90-ft (27-m) column. This monument commemorates Admiral Dewey's victory at Manila Bay during the Spanish–American War of 1898.



Victory monument in Union Square

Theater District ㉑

Map 5 B5. 🚌 *2, 3, 4, 38.* 🚋 *Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde.* 🚇 *J, K, L, M, N, T. See* ***Entertainment*** *p263.*

Several theaters are located near Union Square, all within a six-block area. The two biggest are on Geary Boulevard, two blocks west of the square. These are the Curran Theater, built in 1922, and the Geary Theater, built in 1909 and now home to the American Conservatory Theater (ACT). Drama has flourished in San Francisco since the days of the Gold Rush *(see pp24–5)*, and great actors and opera stars have been attracted to the city. Isadora Duncan, the famous, innovative 1920s dancer, was born in the Theater District at 501 Taylor Street.

San Francisco's famous stores overlooking Union Square

Union Square Shops ㉒

Map 5 C5. 🚌 *2, 3, 4, 30, 38, 45.* 🚋 *Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde.* 🚇 *J, K, L, M, N, T. See* ***Shopping*** *p245.*

Many of San Francisco's largest department stores can be found here, including Macy's, Sak's Fifth Avenue, Neiman Marcus, and Gumps *(see pp244–5)*, as well as grand hotels, antiquarian bookshops and boutiques. The Union Square Frank Lloyd Wright Building, at 140 Maiden Lane, is the precursor to New York's Guggenheim Museum.

Powell Street Cable Car Turntable ㉓

Hallidie Plaza, Powell St at Market St. **Map** 5 C5. 🚌 *many buses.* 🚋 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* 🚡 *Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde.*

The Powell-Hyde and the Powell-Mason cable car lines are the most spectacular routes in San Francisco. They start and end their journeys to Nob Hill, Chinatown and Fisherman's Wharf at the corner of Powell Street and Market Street. Unlike the double-ended cable cars on the California Street line, the Powell Street cable cars were built to move in one direction only – hence the need for a turntable at every terminus.

After the car's passengers have disembarked, it is pushed onto the turntable and rotated manually by the conductor and gripman. Prospective customers for the return journey wait amid an ever-moving procession of street musicians, shoppers, tourists and office workers.

Westfield Shopping Centre ㉔

Market St and Powell St. **Map** 5 C5. ***Tel*** *512-6776.* 🚌 *5, 7, 9, 14, 21, 71.* 🚋 *J, K, L, M, N.* 🚡 *Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde.* ○ *10am–8:30pm Mon–Sat, 10am–7pm Sun.* **www**. westfield.com *See* ***Shopping in San Francisco*** *p245.*

Shoppers are carried upward on semi-spiral escalators through this vertical mall, which consists of a soaring, central atrium with nine floors of elegant shops. It is topped by a dome, 150 ft (45 m) above the ground floor. The basement levels provide access to the Powell Street Station. Nordstrom's department store is located on the top five levels and is the mall's main tenant. Entrances to Bloomingdale's, famed for its Classical rotunda, are on the lower floors.

POWELL AND MARKET
BAY & TAYLOR FISHERMANS WHARF
12

Rotating a cable car on the Powell Street turntable

Old United States Mint ㉕

Fifth St and Mission St. **Map** 5 C5. 🚌 *14, 14L, 26, 27.* 🚋 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* ● *indefinitely.*

One of San Francisco's three mints, the Old Mint operated as a museum from 1973–1994; its last coins were produced in 1937. Designed in a Classical style, the building is constructed of sturdy granite, hence its nickname, "Granite Lady." It was built by AB Mullet between 1869 and 1874, its windows fortified by iron shutters and its basement vaults impregnable. The building was one of the few to survive the 1906 earthquake and fire *(see pp28–9)*. It is currently closed to the public.

The impregnable "Granite Lady" Old Mint

San Francisco Visitor Information Center ㉖

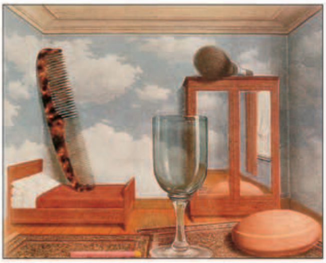
Powell St at Market St under Hallidie Plaza. **Map** 5 B5. ***Tel*** *391-2000.* ☎ *391-2001.* 🚌 *many buses. J, K, L, M, N, T.* 🚡 *Powell–Mason, Powell–Hyde.* ○ *9am–5pm Mon–Fri, 9am–3pm Sat & Sun.* ● *Sun (Nov–Apr).* ♿ *limited.* **www**. onlyinsanfrancisco.com

Inquire here for information on tours of the city and surrounding areas, festivals, special events, restaurants, accommodations, nightlife, sightseeing and shopping. Maps and a wide range of brochures are available in English and other languages, while a multilingual staff is on hand to answer any questions. You can make inquiries by telephone, or use their 24-hour information recording.

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art ⑯

This museum forms the nucleus of San Francisco's reputation as a leading center of modern art. Created in 1935, it moved into its current quarters in 1995. The focus of Swiss architect Mario Botta's modernist building is the 125-ft (38-m) cylindrical skylight, which channels light down to the first-floor atrium court. The museum houses more than 23,000 works of art in its 50,000 sq ft (4,600 sq m) of gallery space, and offers a dynamic schedule of changing exhibits from all over the world. SFMOMA is currently undergoing an expansion that is scheduled for completion in 2016.

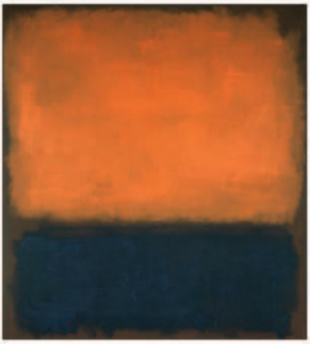
Zip Light **(1990) by Sigmar Willnauer**



Personal Values
Belgian Surrealist René Magritte created this late masterpiece in 1952. It features his use of everyday objects in strange and often unsettling surroundings, all painted in a realistic style.

MUSEUM GUIDE

The shop, café, and special events space are on the first floor. The Koret Visitor Education Center and works from the permanent collection of paintings, sculptures, architecture, and design are on the second floor. Photography and special exhibitions are on the third floor, with media arts, and special exhibitions on the fourth. The fifth-floor galleries and rooftop garden feature contemporary works of painting and sculpture. Note that works may move around during the museum's refurbishment.

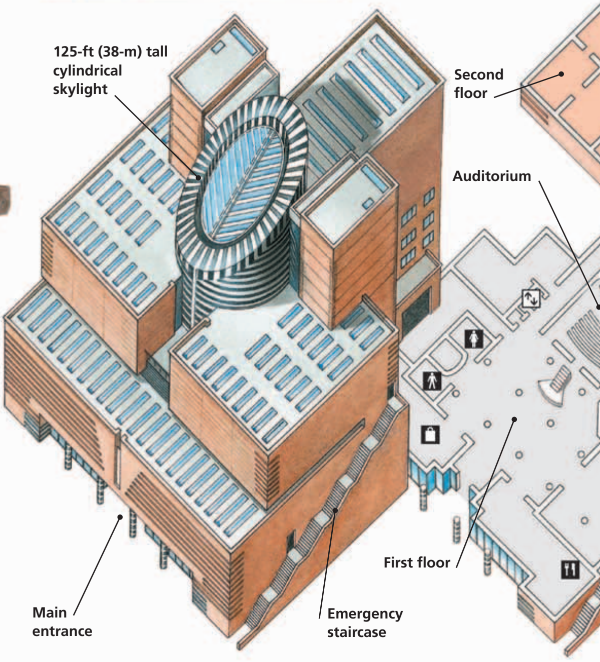


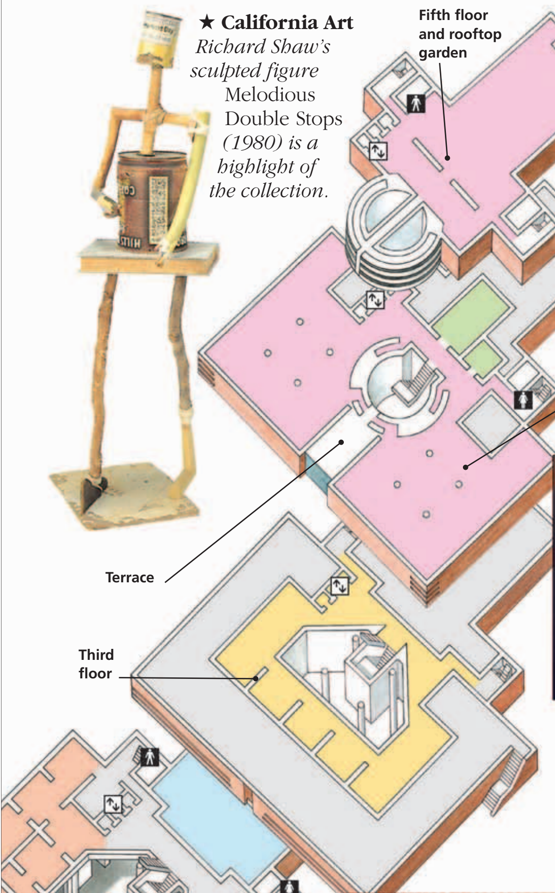
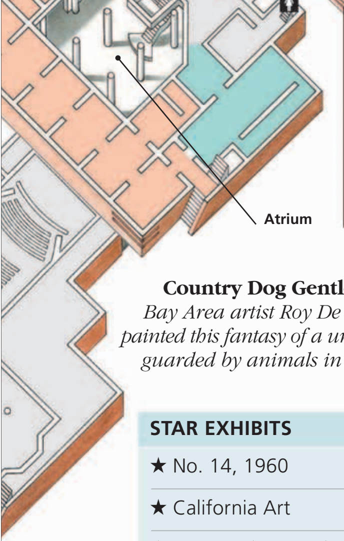
★ No. 14, 1960
This oil on canvas was painted by Mark Rothko, a leading Abstract Expressionist. It is one of the artist's most beautiful and hypnotic works.

Four on a Bench
The Polish artist Magdalena Abakanowicz used burlap, resin, and wood for this sculpture (1980–90).

KEY TO FLOOR PLAN

- 🟧 Painting and sculpture
- 🟦 Architecture and design
- 🟨 Photography and works on paper
- 🟩 Media arts
- 🟦 Koret Visitor Education Center
- 🟪 Special exhibitions
- ⬜ Non-exhibition space

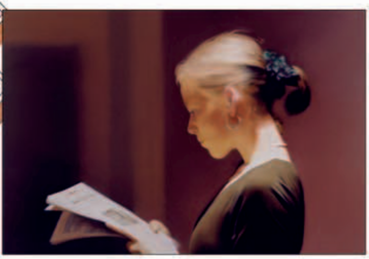


★ California Art
Richard Shaw's sculpted figure Melodious Double Stops *(1980) is a highlight of the collection.*

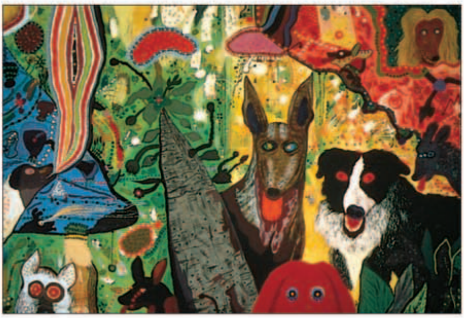
VISITORS' CHECKLIST

151 Third St. **Map** 11 C1. ***Tel*** *357-4000.* 🚌 *5, 9, 12, 14, 15, 30, 38, 45.* 🚋 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* **P** *near Yerba Buena Gardens.* ○ *10am–5:45pm Mon, Tue, Fri–Sun, 10am–8:45pm Thu (from 11am in winter). Times may change, so call.* ● *Jan 1, Thanksgiving, Dec 25, Wed.* ⚿ *free first Tue of month; half-price 6–8:45pm Thu.* ♿ 🛍 ▭ ***Special events, features, seminars, film presentations, library, educational programs.*** **www**.sfmoma.org



★ Lesende (Reading)
This 1994 work is by the German artist Gerhard Richter whose oeuvre encompassess gestural abstraction, landscape, portraiture, and photo-based painting.

Koret Visitor Education Center
This educational facility offers drop-in events as well as a full list of programs. Art activities are also available for children.



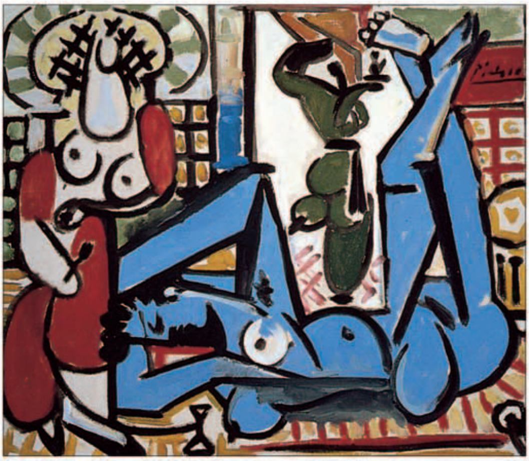
Country Dog Gentlemen
Bay Area artist Roy De Forest painted this fantasy of a universe guarded by animals in 1972.

STAR EXHIBITS

- ★ No. 14, 1960
- ★ California Art
- ★ Lesende (Reading)

Exploring the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

The Museum of Modern Art is both an outstanding repository of modern and contemporary art and a powerhouse of inspiration and encouragement to the local art scene. With thousands of works by American artists, its strengths lie in the American Abstract Expressionist school, the art of California, and artists of the San Francisco Bay Area. However, it is also renowned for its international collection, particularly in the areas of Mexican painting, Fauvism and German Expressionism.



***Women of Algiers* (1955) by Pablo Picasso**

PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURE

Included in the museum's permanent holdings are over 6,000 paintings, sculptures and works on paper. Major artists and schools of European, North American and Latin American art from the 20th century are represented. Paintings and sculpture from 1900 through to 1960 are in the second-floor galleries, while post-1960 contemporary painting, sculpture and works on paper are displayed on the fifth floor.

American Abstract Expressionism is well represented at the museum by Philip Guston, Willem de Kooning, Franz Kline, Joan Mitchell and Jackson Pollock, whose *Guardians of the Secret* is a masterpiece of the genre.

Separate galleries have been allocated for paintings by Clyfford Still, who in the mid-20th century served on the faculty of the California School of Fine Arts, now the San Francisco Art Institute *(see p88)*. Clyfford Still donated 28 of his paintings to the museum in 1975.

Other prominent North and Latin American artists whose works are displayed in the museum collections include Stuart Davis, Marsden Hartley, Frida Kahlo, Wilfredo Lam, Georgia O'Keeffe, Rufino Tamayo and Joaquin Torres-Garcia. One of the museum's most powerful images is *The Flower Carrier*, a 1935 oil painting by Mexican artist Diego Rivera, who is celebrated for his murals *(see p140)*. Another exhibition area permanently shows works by Jasper Johns, Robert Rauschenberg and Andy Warhol, among others, from the Anderson Collection of American Pop Art.

There is a good collection of the European Modernists, including notable paintings by Jean Arp, Max Beckmann, Constantin Brancusi, Georges Braque, Andre Derain, Franz Marc and Pablo Picasso.

Large collections of works by Swiss-born Paul Klee, and the famous French painter of the Fauvist school, Henri Matisse, are accommodated in individual galleries. Henri Matisse's *Femme au Chapeau (Woman with a Hat)* is perhaps the museum's best known painting.

The survey of 20th-century art examines Surrealism, with works by Salvador Dali, Max Ernst and Yves Tanguy.

ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

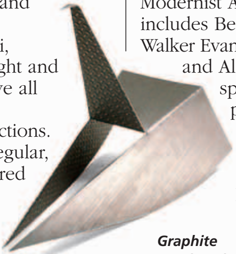
The Department of Architecture and Design was founded in 1983. Its function is to procure and maintain a collection of historical and contemporary architectural drawings, models and design

***92 Chaise* (1992) by Holt Hinshaw Pfau Jones**

objects, and to examine and illuminate their influences on modern art. Its current holding of over 4,000 items focuses on architecture, furniture, product design and graphic design.

Among items on display in the second-floor galleries are models, drawings, prints and prototypes by well-known and emerging designers. These include the famous architect Bernard Maybeck, who was responsible for some of the most beautiful buildings in the Bay Area, including the Palace of Fine Arts *(see pp60–61)*. Other noted San Francisco Bay Area architects represented are Timothy Pflueger, William Wurster, William Turnbull and Willis Polk, known for his design of the glass and steel Halladie Building *(see p45)*, as well as the California design team of Charles and Ray Eames.

Fumihiko Maki, Frank Lloyd Wright and Frank Gehry have all exhibited in the permanent collections. There are also regular, museum-sponsored programs in the Design Lecture Series and the Architectural Lecture Series.

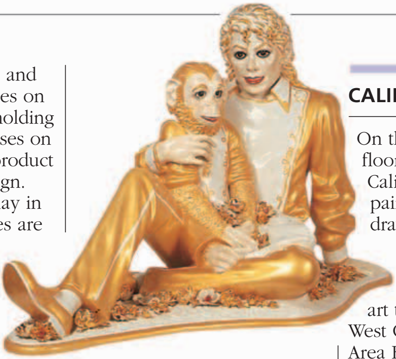


***Graphite to Taste* (1989) by Gail Fredell**

MEDIA ARTS

The Department of Media Arts on the fourth floor was established in 1987. It collects, conserves, documents and exhibits art of the moving image, including works in video, film, projected image, electronic arts and time-based media. The galleries have state-of-the-art equipment to present photographic, multi-image and multimedia works, film, video and selected programs of interactive media artwork.

The museum's growing permanent collection includes pieces by accomplished artists such as Nam June Paik, Don Graham, Peter Campus, Joan Jonas, Bill Viola, Doug Hall and Mary Lucier.



***Michael Jackson and Bubbles* (1988) by Jeff Koons**

PHOTOGRAPHY

Drawing on its permanent collection of over 12,000 photographs, the museum presents a historical survey of the photographic arts. A rotating display of photographs is housed in the third-floor galleries. The collection of Modernist American masters includes Berenice Abbott, Walker Evans, Edward Steichen and Alfred Stieglitz, with special attention paid to California photographers Edward Weston, John Gutmann, Imogen Cunningham and Ansel Adams. There are also collections from Japan, Latin America and Europe, including German avant-garde photographers of the 1920s, and European Surrealists of the 1930s.

CALIFORNIA ARTS

On the second and fifth floors there are works by California artists. These painters and sculptors have drawn their inspiration from local materials and scenes to create an influential body of art that is unique to the West Coast. Important Bay Area Figurative painters include Elmer Bishoff, Joan Brown and David Park, and there is a significant collection by Richard Diebenkorn.

Collage and assemblage artists exhibited from the museum's collection include Bruce Connor, William T. Wiley and Mission District resident Jess. The use of everyday materials such as felt-tip pen, junkyard scrap and old paintings, has produced art with a distinctive West Coast flavor.

CONTEMPORARY ART AND SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Gallery space on the third and fourth floors is reserved for special exhibitions. Included among these are displays of newly acquired gifts and purchases for the permanent collection, and around ten traveling exhibitions per year. An actively changing schedule of contemporary art exhibits supplements the museum's historical collection and does much to encourage today's art scene.

***Cave, Tsankawee, Mexico* (1988) photographed by Linda Connor**

CIVIC CENTER

The administrative center of San Francisco has as its focal point the Civic Center Plaza. This includes some of the best architecture in the city. Its grand government buildings and palatial performing arts complex are the source of a great deal of local pride. The former City Hall was destroyed in the earthquake of 1906 *(see pp28–9)*, creating an opportunity to build a civic center more in keeping with San Francisco's fast-emerging role as a major port. The challenge was taken up by "Sunny Jim" Rolph *(see p29)* after he became mayor in 1911. He made the building of a new Civic Center a top priority, and the funding for the project was found in 1912. The buildings provide an outstanding example of the Beaux-Arts style *(see p47)*, and in 1987 the whole area was declared an historic site. It is perhaps the most ambitious and elaborate city center complex in the US and well worth an extended visit. Fulton Street climbs gently to nearby Alamo Square where there are several fine late Victorian houses.

Reclining Nudes **by Henry Moore outside the Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall**

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Historic Streets and Buildings
Alamo Square ⑬
Bill Graham Civic Auditorium ②
City Hall ⑦
Cottage Row ⑪
University of San Francisco ⑭
Veterans Building ⑥

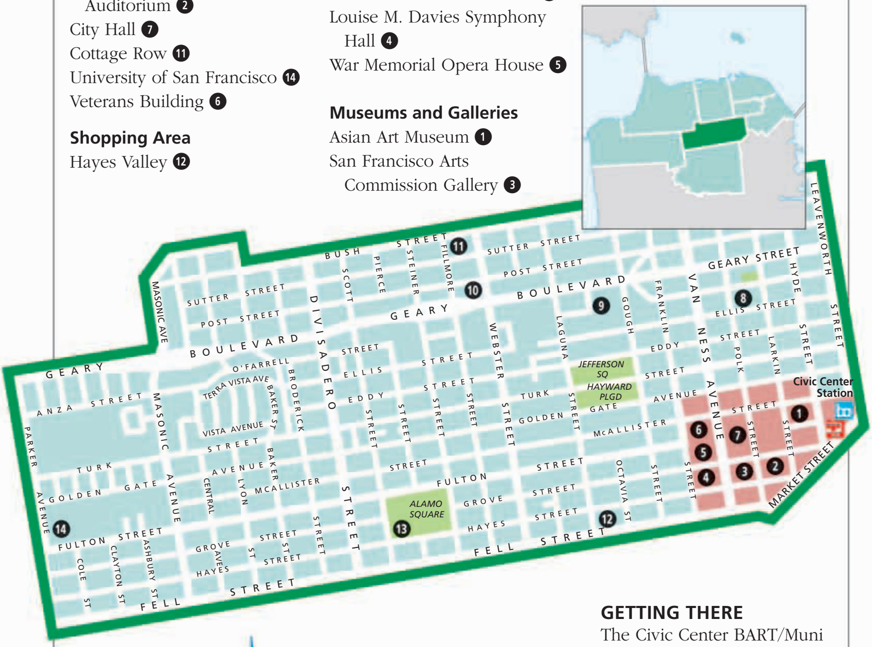
Shopping Area
Hayes Valley ⑫

Modern Architecture
Japan Center ⑩

Theaters and Concert Halls
Great American Music Hall ⑧
Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall ④
War Memorial Opera House ⑤

Museums and Galleries
Asian Art Museum ①
San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery ③

Churches
St. Mary's Cathedral ⑨


LEAVENWORTH STREET
BUSH STREET
SUTTER STREET
POST STREET
GEARY STREET
GEARY BOULEVARD
MASONIC AVE
SCOTT
PIERCE
STEINER
FILLMORE
DIVISADERO STREET
O'FARRELL STREET
ELLIS STREET
EDDY STREET
TURK STREET
GOLDEN GATE AVENUE
McALLISTER STREET
FULTON STREET
GROVE STREET
HAYES STREET
FELL STREET
ANZA STREET
PARKER AVENUE
MASONIC AVENUE
TERRA VISTA AVE
VISTA AVENUE
BAKER ST
BRODERICK
CENTRAL
LYON
COLE ST
CLAYTON ST
ASHBURY ST
GROVE AVE
WEBSTER STREET
LAGUNA STREET
GOUGH STREET
FRANKLIN STREET
OCTAVIA ST
VAN NESS AVENUE
POLK STREET
LARKIN STREET
HYDE STREET
MARKET STREET
JEFFERSON SQ
HAYWARD PLGD
ALAMO SQUARE
Civic Center Station
①
②
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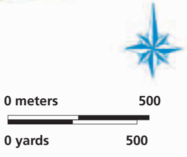

0 meters 500
0 yards 500

KEY

🟥 Street-by-Street map *See pp124–5*

BART station

Streetcar station

GETTING THERE

The Civic Center BART/Muni station on Market Street is two blocks east of City Hall. Buses 5, 19, 47 and 49 travel into the area. The immediate Civic Center district is best seen on foot, but take a car to visit outlying sights.

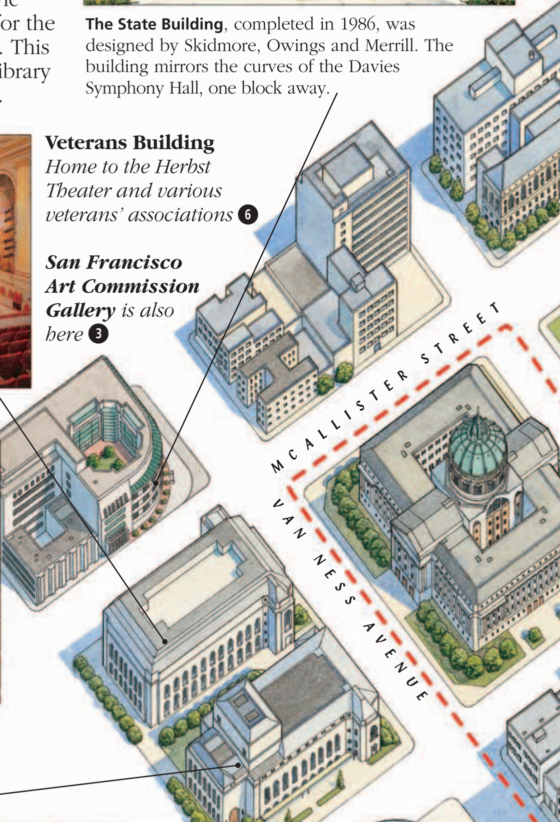
◁ **View from Alamo Square across the Civic Center toward the city center**

Street-by-Street: Civic Center

Simon Bolivar sculpture in UN Plaza

San Francisco's main public space is a triumph of planning and design. Its well-balanced Beaux Arts architecture *(see p47)*, with the impressive dome of City Hall, is a tribute to San Francisco's energy in the years after the 1906 earthquake *(see pp28–9)*. Construction started with the Civic Auditorium, completed in 1915 for the Pan–Pacific Exposition *(see p72)*. This was followed by the City Hall, Library and War Memorial Arts complex.

The State Building, completed in 1986, was designed by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. The building mirrors the curves of the Davies Symphony Hall, one block away.



Veterans Building
Home to the Herbst Theater and various veterans' associations ❻

***San Francisco Art Commission Gallery** is also here* ❸

★ War Memorial Opera House
The distinguished San Francisco Opera and Ballet companies both perform in this elegant spot ❺

LOUISE M. DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL

Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall
The San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, founded in 1911, is based here. Completed in 1981, to a design by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, the hall has a grand lush interior ❹

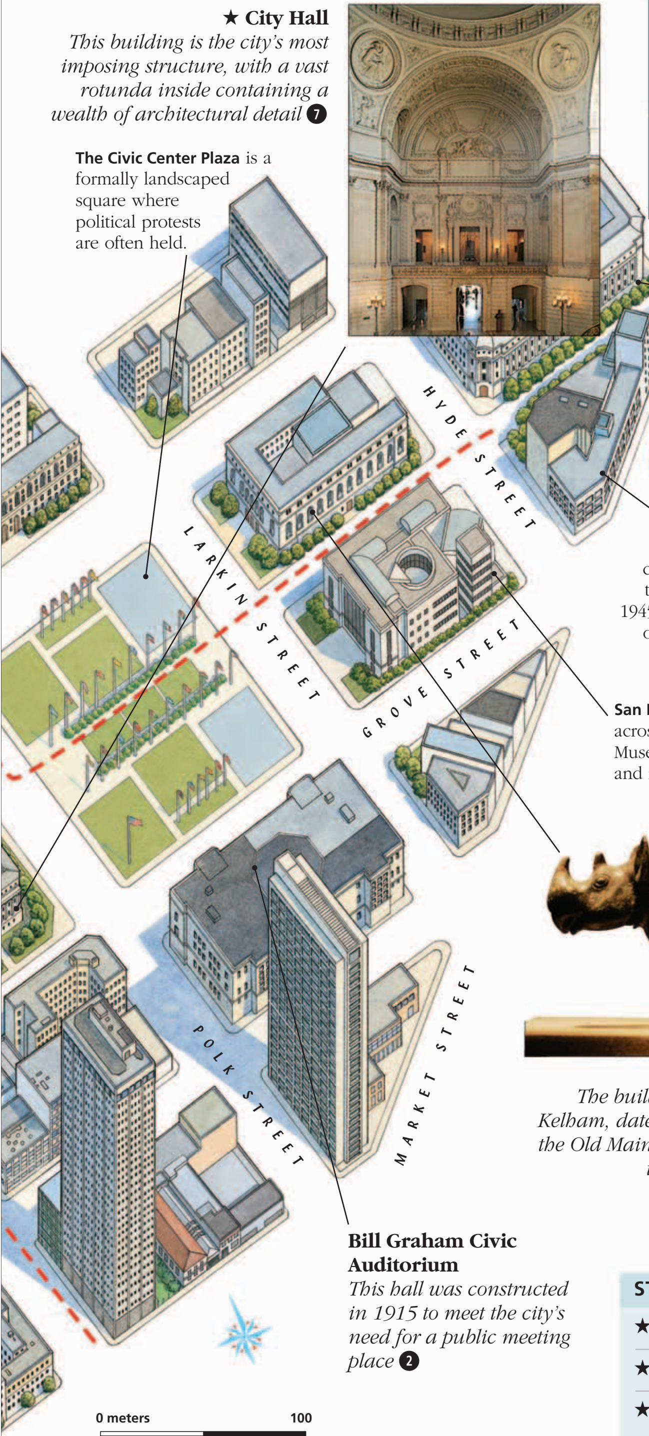
KEY

▬ ▬ ▬	Suggested route

★ City Hall

This building is the city's most imposing structure, with a vast rotunda inside containing a wealth of architectural detail ⑦

The Civic Center Plaza is a formally landscaped square where political protests are often held.


HYDE STREET
LARKIN STREET
GROVE STREET
POLK STREET
MARKET STREET
0 meters 100
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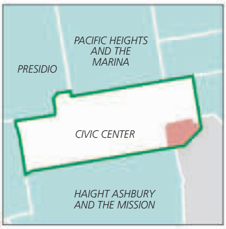

PACIFIC HEIGHTS AND THE MARINA
PRESIDIO
CIVIC CENTER
HAIGHT ASHBURY AND THE MISSION

LOCATOR MAP

See Street Finder, maps 4 & 5

The Federal Building houses US government offices, including the post office.

To bus no. 5

Civic Center Station

United Nations Plaza commemorates the signing of the United Nations Charter in 1945. There is a Farmer's Market on Wednesdays and Sundays.

San Francisco New Main Library, across from the Asian Art Museum, combines Beaux Arts and modern architectural styles.

★ Asian Art Museum

The building, designed by George Kelham, dates from 1917. It was once the Old Main Library, but now houses the Asian Art Museum ①

Bill Graham Civic Auditorium

This hall was constructed in 1915 to meet the city's need for a public meeting place ②

STAR SIGHTS

- ★ Asian Art Museum
- ★ City Hall
- ★ War Memorial Opera House

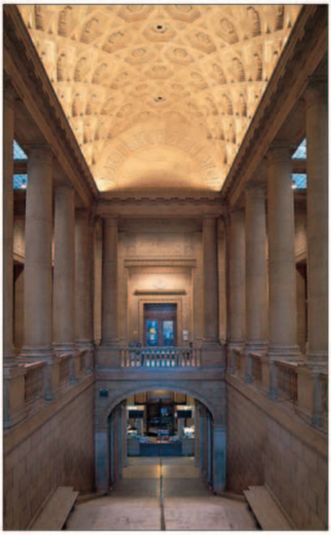
Asian Art Museum ❶

200 Larkin St. **Map** 4 F5. ***Tel*** *581-3500.* 🚌 *5, 19, 21, 26, 47, 49.* 🚇 *F, J, K, L, M, N, T.* ○ *10am–5pm Tue–Sun.* ● *public hols.* ✋ *except first Tue of month.* ♿ ✋ 🛍 ☕
www.asianart.org

The Asian Art Museum is located on Civic Center Plaza across from City Hall in a building that was the crown jewel of the Beaux Arts movement in San Francisco. The former Main Library, built in 1917, underwent major renovation in 2001 to create the largest museum outside Asia devoted exclusively to Asian art.

The museum's holdings include more than 17,000 art objects spanning 6,000 years of history and representing cultures and countries throughout Asia. Among the exhibits is a gilt bronze Buddha, one of the oldest Chinese Buddhas in the world. There are also venues for performances and festivals, a library, a hands-on discovery center where families can explore Asian art and culture, and classrooms for educational programs.

The café's beautiful outdoor terrace overlooks the Civic Center and Fulton Street mall.


Grand staircase in the Asian Art Museum

Interior of San Francisco Art Commission Gallery

Bill Graham Civic Auditorium ❷

99 Grove St. **Map** 4 F5. ***Tel*** *974-4060.* 🚌 *5, 7, 19, 21, 26, 47, 49, 71.* 🚇 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* ○ *for performances.* **www**.billgrahamcivic.com

Designed in Beaux Arts style *(see pp46–7)* by architect John Galen Howard to form a major part of the Panama-Pacific Exposition *(see pp30–31)*, San Francisco's Civic Auditorium was opened in 1915, and since then has been one of the city's most prominent performance venues. It was inaugurated by the French pianist and composer Camille Saint Saens. The building was completed along with City Hall, in the course of the massive architectural renaissance that followed the disasters of 1906 *(see pp28–9)*. It was built, together with the adjoining Brooks Exhibit Hall, beneath the Civic Center Plaza. The Civic Auditorium now serves as the city's main conference center, and has the capacity to seat 7,000 people. In 1992 its name was changed in honor of the legendary Bill Graham *(see p129)*, the local rock music impresario who was a pivitol figure in both the development and promotion of the city's trademark psychedelic sound.

San Francisco Art Commission Gallery ❸

401 Van Ness Ave. **Map** 4 F5. ☎ *554-6080.* 🚌 *5, 19, 21, 26, 47, 49.* 🚇 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* ○ *noon–5pm Wed–Sat (call for late opening hours).* ♿ **www**.sfacgallery.org

Located in the Veterans Building *(see p127)*, this dynamic art gallery shows paintings, sculptures, and multimedia works produced by local artists. The gallery's previous location is now View 155, an annex gallery south-east of the main gallery at 155 Grove Street between Polk and Van Ness.

Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall

Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall ❹

201 Van Ness Ave. **Map** 4 F5. ***Tel*** *552-8000.* 🚌 *21, 26, 47, 49.* 🚇 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* ♿ ✋ *552-8338.* **www**.sfsymphony.org
See ***Entertainment*** *p264.*

Loved and loathed in equal measure by the citizens of San Francisco, this curving, glass-fronted concert hall was constructed in 1980 – the creation of architects Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. The ultra-modern hall is named for the prominent philanthropist who donated $5 million of the $35 million construction cost. It is home to the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra and also welcomes many visiting artists.

The acoustics of the building were disappointing when it was first opened, but after many years of negotiations a new sound system was installed. The interior was also redesigned, and the walls were resculptured to reflect sound better. These measures improved the acoustics.

Front entrance of War Memorial Opera House, built in 1932

War Memorial Opera House ❺

301 Van Ness Ave. **Map** 4 F5. ***Tel*** *621-6600.* 🚌 *5, 21, 47, 49.* 🚊 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* 📷 *except during performances.* ♿ ☞ *call 861-4008.* **www**.sfwmpac.org

Opened in 1932, the War Memorial Opera House, designed by Arthur Brown, was dedicated to the memory of World War I soldiers. In 1951 it was used for the signing of the peace treaty between the US and Japan, marking the formal end of World War II. The building is now home to the San Francisco Opera *(see p264)*.

Veterans Building ❻

401 Van Ness Ave. **Map** 4 F5. ***Tel*** *621-6600;* **Herbst Theater** *392-4400.* 🚌 *5, 19, 21, 47, 49.* 🚊 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* ○ *by appt only, 8am–5pm Mon–Fri.* 📷 *except during performances.* ♿ *limited.* ☞ *call 552-8338.* **www**.sfwmpac.org

Like its almost identical twin, the War Memorial Opera House, the multipurpose Veteran's Building was designed by Arthur Brown and built in 1932 to honor World War I soldiers. In addition to displays of historic weapons, there are showcases of military memorabilia. The building is also home to the Herbst Theater, a 928-seat concert hall and theater. Because of its good acoustics, many classical music recitals are held here. The theater was the site of the signing of the United Nations Charter in 1945.

City Hall ❼

400 Van Ness Ave. **Map** 4 F5. ***Tel*** *554-4000.* 🚌 *5, 8, 19, 21, 26, 47, 49.* 🚊 *J, K, L, M, N, T.* ○ *8am–8pm Mon–Fri.* 📷 ♿ ☞ *call 554-6023.* **www**.sfgov.org

City Hall, completed in 1915, just in time for the Panama–Pacific Exposition *(see pp30–31)*, was designed by Arthur Brown when he was at the height of his career. The original building was completely destroyed in the 1906 Earthquake. Its Grand Baroque dome was modeled on St. Peter's Church in Rome and is higher than the US Capitol in Washington, DC. The upper levels of the dome are accessible to the public.

The restored building is at the center of the Civic Center complex and is a magnificent example of the Beaux Arts style *(see p47)*.

There are allegorical figures evoking the city's Gold Rush past in the pediment above the main Polk Street entrance. This entrance leads into the marble floored Rotunda.

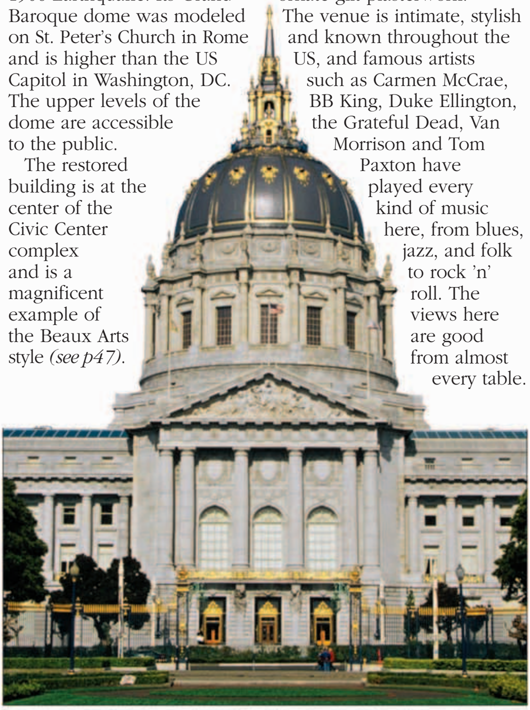
Great American Music Hall ❽

859 O'Farrell St. **Map** 4 F4. ***Tel*** *885-0750.* 🚌 *19, 38, 47, 49.* **www**.musichallsf.com

Built in 1907 as a place for bawdy comedy shows, the Great American Music Hall was soon in use as a brothel. Since then, it has become an excellent performance space, with a rich interior containing tall marble columns and elaborate balconies, adorned with ornate gilt plasterwork. The venue is intimate, stylish and known throughout the US, and famous artists such as Carmen McCrae, BB King, Duke Ellington, the Grateful Dead, Van Morrison and Tom Paxton have played every kind of music here, from blues, jazz, and folk to rock 'n' roll. The views here are good from almost every table.

The Great
AMERICAN
MUSIC HALL
SAT
DANCE
THE
SUNDOGS
ACOUSTIC
CALIFORINA
CAJUN

Sign over Great American Music Hall



The imposing façade of the Beax Arts style City Hall in the heart of the Civic Center of San Francisco

The altar in St. Mary's Cathedral

St. Mary's Cathedral ❾

1111 Gough St. **Map** 4 E4. ***Tel*** *567-2020.* 🚌 *38.* ○ *8:30am–4:30pm Mon–Fri, 9am–6:30pm Sat & Sun.* ✝ *5:30am (Sat only), 6:45am, 8am, 12:10pm Mon–Sat; 7:30am, 9am, 11am, 1pm, Sun.* 🚫 *during services.* ✋ ♿ **www**.stmarycathedralsf.org

Situated at the top of Cathedral Hill, the ultra-modern St. Mary's is one of the city's most prominent architectural landmarks. Designed by architect Pietro Belluschi and engineer Pier Luigi Nervi, it was completed in 1971.

The four-part arching paraboloid roof stands out like a white-sailed ship on the horizon, though critics say it resembles a giant food mixer. The 200-ft-high (60-m) concrete structure, which supports a cross-shaped stained-glass ceiling representing the four elements, seems to hover effortlessly over the 2,500-seat nave. A sunburst canopy made of aluminum rods sparkles above the plain stone altar.

Japan Center ❿

Post St and Buchanan St. **Map** 4 E4. ***Tel*** *567-4753.* 🚌 *2, 3, 4, 38.*
○ *10am–midnight daily.*
● *Jan 1, Thanksgiving, Dec 25.*
www.sfjapantown.org

The Japan Center was built in the 1960s as part of a scheme to revitalize the Fillmore District. Blocks of aging Victorian houses were demolished and replaced by the Geary Expressway and the large shopping complex of the Japan Center. At the heart of the complex, and centered upon a five-tiered, 75-ft (22-m) concrete pagoda, is the remodeled Peace Pagoda Garden. Taiko drummers and others perform here at the Cherry Blossom Festival *(see p48)* each April. Both sides of the Garden are lined with Japanese restaurants, shops, and the eight-screen AMC Kabuki *(see p262)*. This area has been the heart of the Japanese community for over 80 years. More authentic Japanese shops are on Post Street, where there are twin steel sculptures by Ruth Asawa.

Cottage Row ⓫

Map 4 D4. 🚌 *2, 3, 4, 22, 38.*

One of the few surviving remnants of working-class Victorian San Francisco, this short stretch of flat-fronted cottages was built in 1882, at the end of the Pacific Heights building boom. Unusual for San Francisco, the cottages share dividing walls, like terraced houses in Europe or on the East Coast of America. Their utter lack of ornament, and their siting on what was a dark and crowded back alley, emphasize their lower-class status. The Cottage Row houses were saved from destruction during the process of slum clearance in the 1960s. A pro-gram organized by Justin Herman awarded grants to help people restore their existing houses, rather than replace them. All but one of the houses have now been restored, and they face a small attractive city park.

Japan Center by night

Cottage Row

Hayes Valley ⓬

Map 4 E5. 🚌 *21, 22.*

Just west of City Hall, these few blocks of Hayes Street became one of San Francisco's trendier shopping districts after US 101 highway was damaged in the 1989 earthquake *(see p18)*. The road was then torn down, having previously cut Hayes Valley off from the wealthy power brokers and theatergoers of the Civic Center. A few of the local cafés and restaurants, like Hayes Street Grill and Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, had already mixed in with the Hayes Street secondhand furniture and thrift shops. The influx of expensive art galleries, interior design shops and clothing boutiques has made the area noticeably more upscale.

Alamo Square ⑬

Map 4 D5. 🚌 *21, 22.*

San Francisco's most photographed row of colorful Victorian houses lines the eastern side of this sloping green square, which is some 225 ft (68 m) above the Civic Center, giving grand views of City Hall backed by the Financial District skyscrapers. The square was laid out at the same time as the pair of Pacific Heights squares *(see pp72–3)*, but it developed later and much more quickly, with speculators building large numbers of nearly identical houses.

The "Six Sisters" Queen Anne-style houses *(see p77)* built in 1895 at 710–20 Steiner Street are good examples. They appear on many San Francisco postcards. So many grand old Victorian houses line the streets around Alamo Square that the area has been declared an historic district.

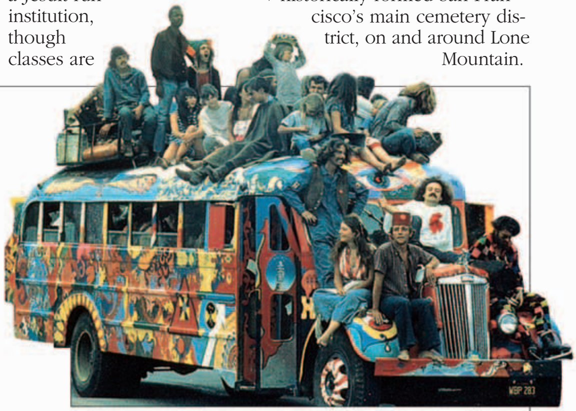
St. Ignatius Church on the University of San Francisco campus

University of San Francisco ⑭

2130 Fulton St. **Map** 3 B5.
Tel *422-5555.* 🚌 *5, 31, 33, 38, 43.*
www.usfca.edu

Founded in 1855 as St. Ignatius College, the University of San Francisco (USF) is still a Jesuit-run institution, though classes are now coeducational and nondenominational. The landmark of the campus is St. Ignatius Church, completed in 1914. Its buff-colored twin towers are visible from all over the western half of San Francisco, especially when lit up at night. The university campus and residential neighborhood that surrounds it occupy land that historically formed San Francisco's main cemetery district, on and around Lone Mountain.

THE SOUNDS OF 1960S SAN FRANCISCO



Hippies lounging on a psychedelic bus

During the Flower Power years of the late 1960s, and most notably during the 1967 Summer of Love *(see p32)*, young people from all over the US flocked to San Francisco. They came not just to "turn on, tune in and drop out," but also to listen to music. Bands such as Janis Joplin's Big Brother and the Holding Company, Jefferson Airplane and the Grateful Dead emerged out of a thriving music scene. They were nurtured at clubs like the Avalon Ballroom and the Fillmore Auditorium.

Janis Joplin (1943–70), hard-edged blues singer

Premier music venues

The Avalon Ballroom, now the Regency II theater on Van Ness Avenue, was the first and most significant rock venue. Run by Chet Helms and the Family Dog collective, the Avalon pioneered the use of colorful psychedelic posters by designers such as Stanley Mouse and Alton Kelly.

Fillmore Auditorium, facing the Japan Center *(see p128)*, used to be a church hall. In 1965 it was taken over by rock impresario Bill Graham, after whom the Civic Auditorium *(see p126)* is named. Graham put such unlikely pairs as Miles Davis and the Grateful Dead on the same bill, and brought in big-name performers from Jimi Hendrix to The Who. The Fillmore was damaged in the 1989 earthquake but reopened in 1994.

Bill Graham also opened the Winterland and the Fillmore East, and by the time he died in 1992 had become the most successful rock music promoter in the US.

SITIVELY HAIGHT STREE
Kawasaki

HAIGHT ASHBURY AND THE MISSION

Figure from Mission Dolores

To the north of Twin Peaks – two windswept hills rising 900 ft (274 m) above the city – lies Haight Ashbury. With its rows of beautiful late Victorian houses *(see pp76–7)*, it is mostly inhabited by the wealthy middle classes, although this is where thousands of hippies lived in the 1960s *(see p129)*. The Castro District, to the east, is the center of San Francisco's gay community. Well known for its wild hedonism in the 1970s, the area is quieter these days, although its cafés and shops are still lively. The Mission District, farther east still, was originally settled by Spanish monks *(see p22)* and is home to many Hispanics.

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Historic Streets and Buildings
- Castro Street ⑧
- Clarke's Folly ⑮
- Dolores Street ⑩
- Haight Ashbury ②
- Lower Haight Neighborhood ⑤
- Noe Valley ⑭
- (Richard) Spreckels Mansion ③

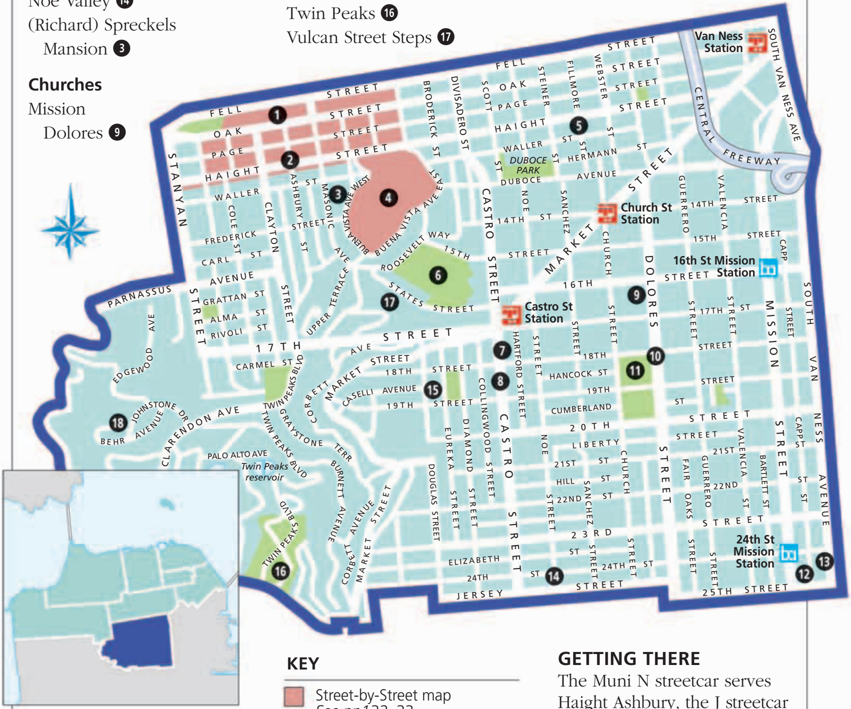
Churches
- Mission Dolores ⑨

Landmarks
- Sutro Tower ⑱

Parks and Gardens
- Buena Vista Park ④
- Corona Heights Park ⑥
- Dolores Park ⑪
- Golden Gate Park Panhandle ①
- Twin Peaks ⑯
- Vulcan Street Steps ⑰

Museums and Galleries
- Carnaval Mural ⑬
- Mission Cultural Center for the Latino Arts ⑫

Theaters
- Castro Theatre ⑦


FELL STREET
OAK STREET
PAGE STREET
HAIGHT STREET
WALLER
STANYAN
COLE ST
CLAYTON ST
ASHBURY ST
MASONIC AVE
BUENA VISTA AVE WEST
BUENA VISTA AVE EAST
FREDERICK STREET
CARL ST
AVENUE
PARNASSUS AVE
STREET
GRATTAN ST
ALMA ST
RIVOLI ST
EDGEWOOD AVE
17TH STREET
CARMEL ST
UPPER TERRACE
ROOSEVELT WAY
15TH STREET
STATES STREET
BRODERICK ST
DIVISADERO ST
SCOTT ST
STEINER ST
FILLMORE ST
WEBSTER ST
DUBOCE PARK
DUBOCE
HERMANN ST
AVENUE
NOE ST
SANCHEZ
14TH ST
CASTRO STREET
MARKET STREET
CHURCH STREET
16TH
GUERRERO STREET
VALENCIA STREET
14TH STREET
15TH STREET
CAPP
CENTRAL FREEWAY
SOUTH VAN NESS AVE
Van Ness Station
Church St Station
16th St Mission Station
Castro St Station
DOLORES STREET
17TH ST
MISSION STREET
18TH
HANCOCK ST
19TH
CUMBERLAND
20TH
LIBERTY
21ST ST
HILL ST
22ND ST
23RD ST
24TH ST
25TH STREET
24th St Mission Station
JOHNSTONE DR
JOHNSTONE AVENUE
CLARENDON AVE
BEHR
PALO ALTO AVE
Twin Peaks reservoir
TWIN PEAKS BLVD
GRAYSTONE TERR
CORBETT AVENUE
MARKET STREET
AVE
18TH
CASELLI AVENUE
19TH
BURNETT AVENUE
DOUGLAS STREET
EUREKA STREET
DIAMOND STREET
COLLINGWOOD STREET
HARTFORD STREET
ELIZABETH
24TH
JERSEY
FAIR OAKS STREET
BARTLETT ST
CAPP ST
SOUTH VAN NESS AVENUE
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18

0 meters 750

0 yards 750

KEY

🟥	Street-by-Street map *See pp132–33*
▣	BART station
▣	Streetcar station

GETTING THERE

The Muni N streetcar serves Haight Ashbury, the J streetcar and BART serves the Mission, and all other lines serve the Castro Street station. Bus 33 links all three neighborhoods.

◁ **Street scene in Haight Ashbury**

Street-by-Street: Haight Ashbury

HAIGHT ASHBURY FREE MEDICAL CLINIC

Plaque outside the Free Clinic

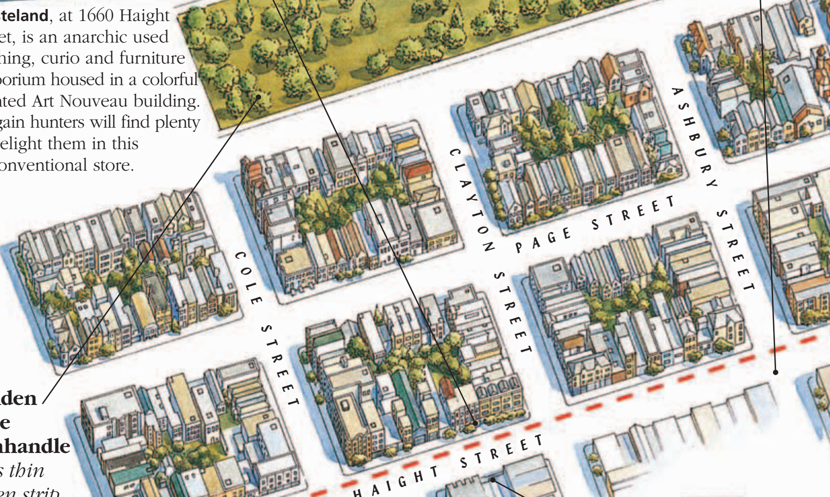
Stretching from Buena Vista Park to the flat expanses of Golden Gate Park, in the 1880s Haight Ashbury was a place to escape to from the city center. It developed into a residential area, but between the 1930s and '60s changed dramatically from middle-class suburb to center of the "Flower Power" world, with a free clinic to treat hippies. It is now one of the liveliest and most unconventional places in San Francisco, with an eclectic mix of people, excellent book and record stores, and good cafés.

600 ASHBURY
HAIGHT

Haight Ashbury
In the 1960s hippies congregated at this major intersection, from which the area takes its name ②

CLOTHING JEWELRY SURPLUS TRADE CURIOS FURNITURE

Wasteland, at 1660 Haight Street, is an anarchic used clothing, curio and furniture emporium housed in a colorful painted Art Nouveau building. Bargain hunters will find plenty to delight them in this unconventional store.


ASHBURY STREET
CLAYTON STREET
PAGE STREET
COLE STREET
HAIGHT STREET

Golden Gate Panhandle
This thin green strip runs west into the heart of Golden Gate Park ①

To bus nos. 7, 33

0 meters 100
0 yards 100

Cha Cha Cha is one of the liveliest places to eat in San Francisco, serving Latin American food in a variety of small dishes *(see p235).*

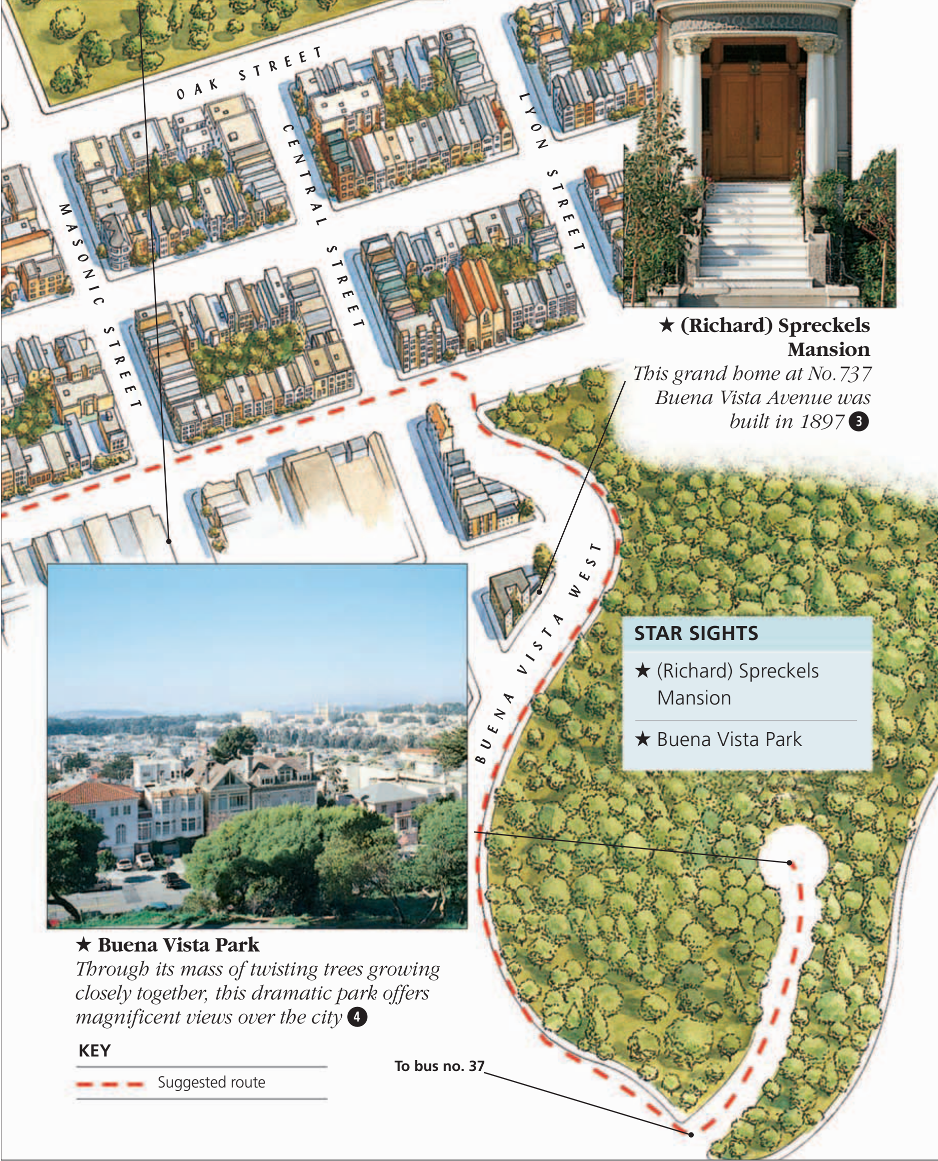
THE RED VICTORIAN

The Red Victorian Bed and Breakfast, a relic of the hippie 1960s, caters to a New Age clientèle with health food and rooms with transcendental themes *(see p217).*

No. 1220 Masonic Avenue is one of many ornate Victorian mansions built on a steep hill to the south of Haight Street.

CIVIC CENTER
HAIGHT ASHBURY AND THE MISSION

LOCATOR MAP
See Street Finder, map 9


OAK STREET
LYON STREET
CENTRAL STREET
MASONIC STREET
BUENA VISTA WEST
To bus no. 37

★ (Richard) Spreckels Mansion
This grand home at No. 737 Buena Vista Avenue was built in 1897 ❸

STAR SIGHTS

- ★ (Richard) Spreckels Mansion
- ★ Buena Vista Park

★ Buena Vista Park
Through its mass of twisting trees growing closely together, this dramatic park offers magnificent views over the city ❹

KEY

– – – Suggested route

Golden Gate Park Panhandle ❶

Map 9 C1. 🚌 *6, 7, 21, 43, 66, 71.* 🚋 *N.*

This one-block-wide, eight-block-long stretch of parkland forms the narrow “Panhandle” to the giant rectangular pan that is Golden Gate Park *(see pp142–55)*. It was the first part of the park to be reclaimed from the sand dunes that rolled across west San Francisco, and its stately eucalyptus trees are among the oldest and largest in the city. The Panhandle’s winding carriage roads and bridle paths were first laid out in the 1870s, and the upper classes came here to walk and ride. They built large mansions on the outskirts of the park; many can still be seen today. In 1906 the Panhandle was a refuge for families made homeless by the earthquake *(see pp28–9)*. Today the old roads and paths are used regularly by large crowds of joggers and bicyclists.

Guitar hero Jimi Hendrix in concert

The Panhandle is still remembered for its “Flower Power” heyday of the 1960s *(see p129)*, when bands gave impromptu concerts here.

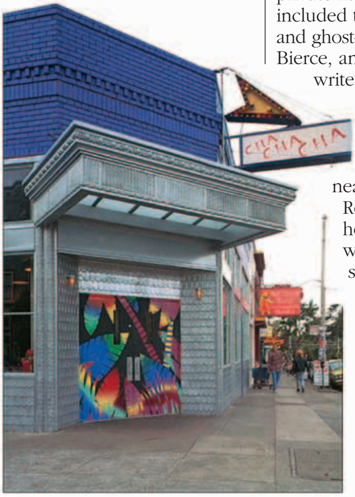
Haight Ashbury ❷

Map 9 C1. 🚌 *6, 7, 33, 37, 43, 66, 71.* 🚋 *N.*

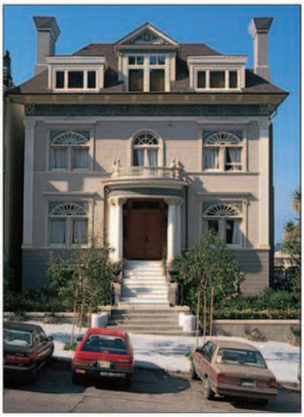
Taking its name from the junction of two main streets, Haight and Ashbury, this district contains independent bookstores, large Victorian houses, cafés, and hip clothing boutiques. Following the reclamation of Golden Gate Park *(see p146)* and the opening of a large amusement park called The Chutes, the area was rapidly built up in the 1890s as a middle-class suburb – hence the dozens of elaborate Queen Anne-style houses *(see p77)* lining its streets. The Haight survived the 1906 earthquake and fire *(see pp28–9)*, and experienced a brief boom, followed by a long period of decline.

After the streetcar tunnel under Buena Vista Park was completed in 1928, the middle classes began their exodus to the suburbs in the Sunset. The area reached its lowest ebb in the years after World War II. The big Victorian houses were divided into apartments and the low rents attracted a mixed population. By the 1960s the Haight had become host to a bohemian community that was a hotbed of anarchy. A component of this “hippie scene” was the music of rock bands such as the Grateful Dead, but the area stayed quiet until 1967. Then the media-fueled “Summer of Love” *(see p129)* brought some 75,000 young people in search of free love, music and drugs, and the area became the focus of a worldwide youth culture.

Today, the Haight retains its anti-establishment atmosphere, but there are problems of crime, drug abuse and homelessness. However, from the congenial cafés to the second-hand clothing shops, you will still find the aura of the past here.



The Cha Cha Cha restaurant on Haight Street


Mansion built for Richard Spreckels

(Richard) Spreckels Mansion ❸

737 Buena Vista West. **Map** 9 C2.
🚌 *6, 7, 37, 43, 66, 71.*
● *to the public.*

This house should not be confused with the larger and grander Spreckels Mansion on Washington Street *(see p72)*. It was, however, also built by the millionaire “Sugar King” Claus Spreckels, for his nephew Richard. The elaborate Queen Anne-style house *(see p77)*, built in 1897, is a typical late-Victorian Haight Ashbury home. It was once a recording studio, and later a guest house, but is now in private hands. Guests have included the acerbic journalist and ghost-story writer Ambrose Bierce, and the adventure writer Jack London, who wrote *White Fang* here in 1906.

The mansion is situated on a hill near Buena Vista Park. Rows of Victorian houses, many of them well preserved and some palatial, are nearby. One of these, a block away at 1450 Masonic Street, is an onion-domed house, one of the most unusual of the many eccentric mansions built in the Haight since the 1890s.

Buena Vista Park ❹

Map 9 C1. 🚌 *6, 7, 37, 43, 66, 71.*

Buena Vista Park rises steeply, 569 ft (18 m) above the geographical center of San Francisco. First landscaped in 1894, it is a pocket of land left to nature. A network of paths winds up from Haight Street to the crest, where densely planted trees frame views of the Bay Area. Many of the trails are overgrown and eroded, but there is a paved route up to the summit from Buena Vista Avenue. It is best to avoid the park at night.

Lower Haight Neighborhood ❺

Map 10 D1. 🚌 *6, 7, 22, 66, 71.*
🚋 *K, L, M, N, T.*

Halfway between City Hall and Haight Ashbury, and marking the southern border of the Fillmore District, the Lower Haight is an area in transition. Unusual art galleries and boutiques, including the Used Rubber USA shop, which sells clothes and accessories made entirely of recycled rubber, began to open here in the mid-1980s. These were in addition to the inexpensive cafés, bars and restaurants serving a bohemian clientèle that were already in business in the area. This combination has created one of the most lively districts in San Francisco.

As in nearby Alamo Square *(see p129)*, the Lower Haight holds dozens of houses known as “Victorians” *(see pp76–7)*, built from the 1850s to the early 1900s. These include many picturesque cottages such as the Nightingale House at 201 Buchanan Street, built in the 1880s.

But public housing projects from the 1950s have discouraged wholesale gentrification. The area is safe during the day, but like Alamo Square, it can seem quite threatening after dark.

LEVI STRAUSS AND HIS JEANS

Levi Strauss

First manufactured in San Francisco in the days of the Gold Rush *(see pp24–5)*, denim jeans have had a great impact on popular culture. One of the leading producers of jeans is Levi Strauss & Co., founded in the city in the 1860s. The company's story started in 1853, when Levi Strauss left New York to set up a branch of his family's cloth firm in San Francisco. In the 1860s, though still primarily a seller of cloth, he pioneered the use of durable blue canvas to make workpants, sold directly to miners. In the 1870s his company began to use metal rivets to strengthen stress points in the garments, and demand increased. The company expanded, and early in the 20th century moved to 250 Valencia Street in the Mission District, where it remained until 2002. Levi's jeans are now produced and worn all over the world, and the company that was founded by Levi Strauss is still owned by his descendants.

BLUE EYES MINE
Two miners wearing Levis at the Last Chance Mine in 1882

View from Corona Heights across the Mission

Corona Heights and Randall Museum ❻

Map 9 D2. ***Tel*** *554-9600.* 🚌 *24, 37.* **Randall Museum Animal Room** 199 Museum Way. 🕓 *10am–5pm Tue–Sat.* ● *public hols.* ♿ *limited.* **www**.randallmuseum.org

Corona Heights Park is a dusty and undeveloped rocky peak. Clinging to its side is an unusual museum for children. The Randall Museum Animal Room has an extensive menagerie of raccoons, owls, snakes and other animals. The emphasis of the museum is on participation, and there are many hands-on exhibits and workshops.

Children can also enjoy climbing on the craggy outcrops in the park. Corona Heights was gouged out by brick-making operations in the 19th century. It was never planted with trees, so its bare red-rock peak offers an unimpeded panorama over the city and East Bay, including the winding streets of Twin Peaks.

Castro Theatre ⑦

429 Castro St. **Map** 10 D2. ***Tel*** *621-6120.* 🚌 *24, 33, 35, 37.* 🚊 *F, K, L, M, T. See* ***Entertainment*** *p240.*
www.thecastrotheatre.com

Completed in 1922, this brightly lit neon marquee is a Castro Street landmark. It is the most sumptuous and best preserved of San Francisco's neighborhood film palaces, and one of the first commissions of the architect Timothy Pflueger. With its lavish, Arabian Nights interior, complete with a glorious Wurlitzer organ that rises from the floor between screenings, it is well worth the price of admission. The ceiling of the auditorium is particularly noteworthy; it is cast in plaster and resembles the interior of a large tent, with imitation swathes of material, rope and tassels. The theater seats 1,400 and shows mainly revival classics. It also hosts the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, held each June *(see p49).*

The historic Castro Theatre

Castro Street ⑧

Map 10 D2. 🚌 *24, 33, 35, 37.* 🚊 *F, K, L, M, T.*

The hilly neighborhood around Castro Street between Twin Peaks and the Mission District is the heart of San Francisco's high-profile gay and lesbian community. Focused on the intersection of Castro Street and 18th Street, the self-proclaimed "Gayest Four Corners of the World" emerged as a homosexual nexus during the 1970s. Gays of the Flower Power generation moved into this predominantly working-class district and began restoring Victorian houses and setting up such businesses as the bookstore A Different Light, at 489 Castro Street. They also opened such gay bars as the Twin Peaks on the corner of Castro Street and 17th Street. Unlike earlier bars, where lesbians and gays hid in dark corners out of public view, the Twin Peaks installed large windows. Though the many shops and restaurants attract all kinds of people, the Castro's openly homosexual identity has made it a place of pilgrimage for gays and lesbians. It symbolizes for this minority group a freedom not generally found in cities elsewhere.

View down Castro Street

The city's first prominent and openly gay politician, Harvey Milk, was known as the Mayor of Castro Street before he was assassinated on November 28, 1978. He and Mayor George Moscone were killed by an ex-policeman, whose lenient sentence caused riots in the city. Milk is now remembered by a memorial plaque outside the Muni station on Market Street, and by an annual candlelit procession from Castro Street to City Hall.

***The AIDS Memorial Quilt on* display in Washington in 1992**

THE NAMES PROJECT

The NAMES Project's AIDS Memorial Quilt was conceived by San Francisco gay rights activist Cleve Jones, who organized the first candlelit procession on Castro Street for Harvey Milk in 1985. Jones and his fellow marchers wrote the names of all their friends who had died of AIDS on placards, which they then taped to the San Francisco Federal Building. The resulting "patchwork quilt" of names inspired Jones to create the first panel for the AIDS Memorial Quilt in 1987. Public response to the quilt was immediate – both in the US and across the world. It is now made up of over 60,000 panels, some sewn by individuals and others by "quilting bees" – friends and relatives who have come together to commemorate a person lost to AIDS. All panels are the same size – 3 by 6 ft (90 by 180 cm) – but each is different: the design, colors, and material reflect the life and personality of the person commemorated. In 2002 the Memorial Quilt moved from its base in San Francisco to permanent headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mission Dolores ❾

16th St and Dolores St. **Map** 10 E2.
ℹ *621-8203.* 🚌 *22.* 🚋 *J.*
○ *9am–4:30pm daily.* ● *Thanksgiving, Dec 25.*
♿ 📷 ♿ 🛍 **www.** missiondolores.org

Preserved intact since it was completed in 1791, Mission Dolores is the oldest building in the city and an embodiment of San Francisco's religious Spanish colonial roots *(see pp22–3)*. The mission was founded by a Franciscan friar, Father Junipero Serra, and is formally known as the Mission of San Francisco de Asis. The name Dolores reflects its proximity to Laguna de los Dolores (Lake of Our Lady of Sorrows). The building is modest by mission standards, but its 4-ft-thick (1.2-m) walls have survived the years without serious decay. Paintings by American Indians adorn the ceiling, which has been preserved.

There is a fine Baroque altar and reredos, as well as a display of historical artifacts in the small museum *(see p39)*. Most services are held in the basilica, which was built next to the original mission in 1918. The white-walled cemetery contains graves of prominent San Franciscans from the Gold Rush days. A statue honoring the graves of 5,000 Indians, most of whom died in the great measles epidemics of 1806 and 1826, was stolen and returned in 1993. It stands on a pedestal reading "In Prayerful Memory of our Faithful Indians." The famous graveyard scene in Hitchcock's *Vertigo* was filmed here in 1957.

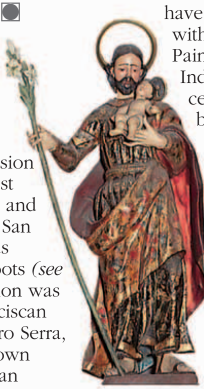
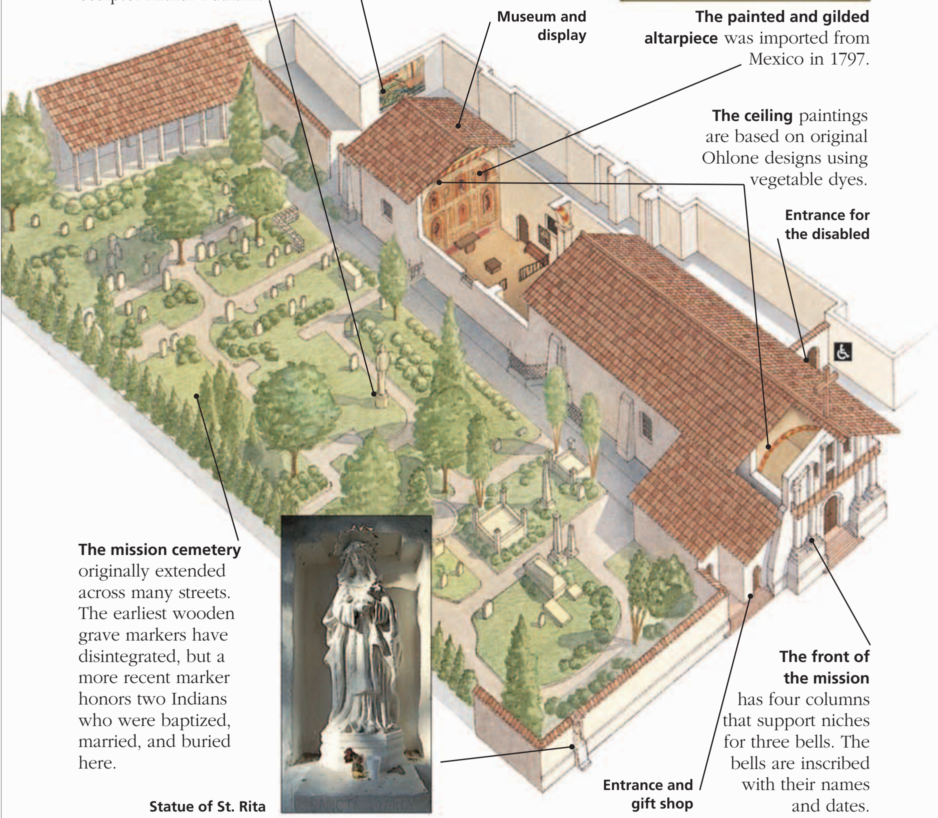


Figure of saint in the Mission Dolores

The painted and gilded altarpiece was imported from Mexico in 1797.



The Statue of Father Junipero Serra, founder of the mission, is a copy of the work of local sculptor Arthur Putnam.

The ceramic mural was created by Guillermo Granizo, a native San Francisco artist.

Museum and display

The ceiling paintings are based on original Ohlone designs using vegetable dyes.

Entrance for the disabled

The mission cemetery originally extended across many streets. The earliest wooden grave markers have disintegrated, but a more recent marker honors two Indians who were baptized, married, and buried here.

Statue of St. Rita

Entrance and gift shop

The front of the mission has four columns that support niches for three bells. The bells are inscribed with their names and dates.

Sculpture commemorating soldiers in the Spanish–American War

Dolores Street ⑩

Map 10 E2. 🚌 *22, 33, 48.* 🚋 *J.*

Lined by lovingly maintained late-Victorian houses *(see pp76–7)* and divided by an island of palm trees, Dolores Street is one of San Francisco's most attractive public spaces. The broad straight boulevard runs for 24 blocks, parallel to Mission Street, forming the western border of the Mission District. It starts at Market Street, where a statue in honor of Spanish–American War soldiers is overwhelmed by the hulking US Mint.

The Mission High School, with the characteristic white walls and red tile roof of Mission-style architecture, is on Dolores Street, as is the historic Mission Dolores *(see p137)*. The street ends near prosperous Noe Valley.

Dolores Park ⑪

Map 10 E3. 🚌 *22, 33.* 🚋 *J.*

Originally the site of the city's main Jewish cemetery, Dolores Park transformed in 1905 into one of the Mission District's few large open spaces. Bounded by Dolores, Church, 18th and 20th streets, it is situated high on a hill with a good view of the city center.

Dolores Park is popular during the day with tennis players, sunbathers and dog walkers, but after dark can draw drug dealers. Above the park to the south and west, the streets rise so steeply that many turn into pedestrian-only stairways. Here are some of the city's finest Victorian houses, especially on Liberty Street.

Mission Cultural Center for the Latino Arts ⑫

2868 Mission St. **Map** 10 F4. ***Tel*** *821-1155 (Events Hotline: 643-5001).* 🚌 *14, 26, 48, 49.* 🚋 *J.* **Gallery** ○ *10am–5pm Tue–Sat.* ♿ **www**.missionculturalcenter.org

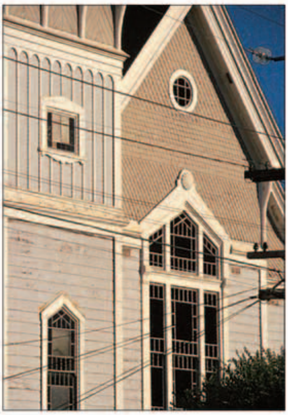
This dynamic arts center caters for the Latino population of the Mission District. It offers classes and workshops to people of all ages, and stages theatrical events and exhibitions. Chief among these is the parade held in November to celebrate the Day of the Dead *(see p50)*.

Carnaval Mural ⑬

24th St and South Van Ness Ave. **Map** 10 F4. 🚌 *12, 14, 48, 49, 67.* 🚋 *J.*

One of the many brightly painted murals to be seen on walls in the Mission District, the *Carnaval Mural* celebrates the diverse people who come together for the Carnaval festival *(see p48)*. This event, held annually in late spring, is the high spot of the year.

Guided tours of other murals, some with political themes, are given by civic organizations *(see p257)*. There is also an outdoor gallery with murals in Balmy Alley *(see pp140–41)*, near Treat and Harrison streets.

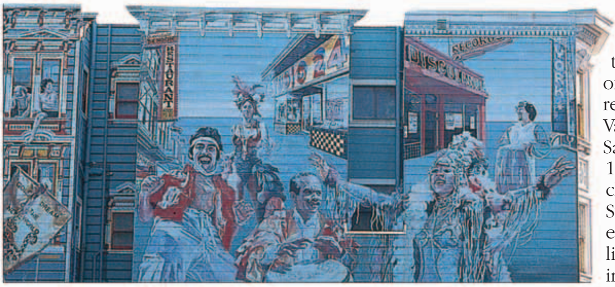


Noe Valley Ministry

Noe Valley ⑭

🚌 *24, 35, 48.* 🚋 *J.*

Noe valley is known as "Noewhere Valley" by its residents, who are intent on keeping it off the tourist map. It is a comfortable neighborhood mainly inhabited by young professionals. Named after its original land-grant owner, José Noe, the last *alcalde* (mayor) of Mexican Yerba Buena, the area was first developed in the 1880s following the completion of a cable car line over the steep Castro Street hill. Like many other areas of San Francisco, this once working-class district underwent wholesale gentrification in the 1970s, resulting in today's engaging mix of boutiques, bars and restaurants. The Noe Valley Ministry, at 1021 Sanchez Street, is a late 1880s Presbyterian church in the "Stick Style" *(see p77)*, with emphasis on vertical lines. It was converted into a community center in the 1970s.



Detail from the *Carnaval Mural*

Clarke's Folly ⑮

250 Douglass St. **Map** 10 D3.
🚌 *33, 35, 37, 48.* ● *to the public.*

This resplendent white manor house was originally surrounded by extensive grounds. It was built in 1892 by Alfred Clarke, known as Nobby, who worked in the San Francisco Police Department at the time of the Committee of Vigilance *(see pp26–7)*. The house is said to have cost $100,000, a huge sum in the 1890s. Now divided into private apartments, its turrets and other features make it an evocative example of Victorian-era domestic architecture.

View of the city and of Twin Peaks Boulevard from top of Twin Peaks

Twin Peaks ⑯

Map 9 C4. 🚌 *33, 36, 37.*

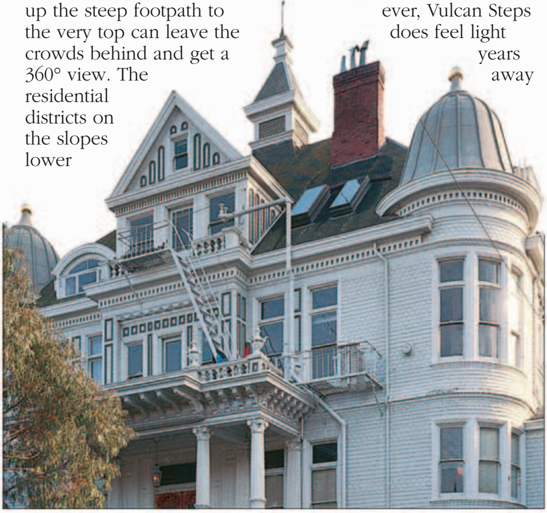
These two hills were first known in Spanish as El Pecho de la Chola, the "Bosom of the Indian Girl." At the top there is an area of parkland with steep and grassy slopes, from which you can enjoy incomparable views of the whole of San Francisco.

Twin Peaks Boulevard circles both hills near their summits, and there is a parking and viewing point from which to look out over the city. Those who are prepared to climb up the steep footpath to the very top can leave the crowds behind and get a 360° view. The residential districts on the slopes lower down have curving streets that wind around the contours of the slopes, rather than the formal grid that is more common in San Francisco.

Vulcan Street Steps ⑰

Vulcan St. **Map** 9 C2. 🚌 *37.*

Apart from a tiny figure of Spock standing on a mailbox, there is no connection between the popular television program *Star Trek* and this block of almost rural houses climbing between Ord Street and Levant Street. Like the Filbert Steps on Telegraph Hill *(see p93)*, however, Vulcan Steps does feel light years away from the busy streets of the Castro District below. The small vegetable and flower gardens of the houses spill out and soften the edges of the steps, and a canopy of pines muffles the city sounds. There are grand views of the Mission District and beyond.



Nobby Clarke's Folly

Sutro Tower ⑱

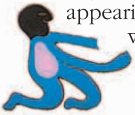
Map 9 B3. 🚌 *36, 37.*
● *to the public.*

Marking the skyline like an invading robot, Sutro Tower is 970 ft (290 m) high. It was named after local landowner and philanthropist Adolph Sutro, and it carries antennae for the signals of most of the city's TV and radio stations. Built in 1973, it is still much used, despite the rise of cable networks. The tower is visible from all over the Bay Area, and sometimes seems to float above the summer fogs that roll in from the sea. On the north side of the tower there are dense eucalyptus groves, first planted in the 1880s by Adolph Sutro. They drop down to the medical center campus of the University of California at San Francisco, one of the most highly rated teaching hospitals in the United States.

Sutro Tower

San Francisco's Murals

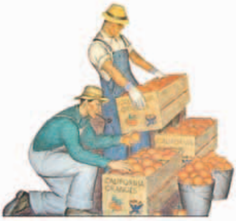
San Francisco is proud of its reputation as a culturally rich and cosmopolitan city, qualities evident in the vivid elaborate murals that decorate walls and fences in several areas of the city. Many were painted in the 1930s, and many more in the 1970s, with some appearing spontaneously while others were commissioned. One of the best is the *Carnaval Mural* on 24th Street in the Mission District *(see p138)*; further examples are shown here.

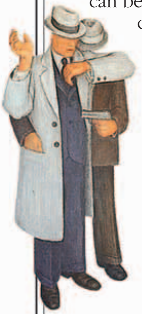

Mural at Balmy Alley

503 Law Office at Dolores and 18th streets

PAST AND PRESENT

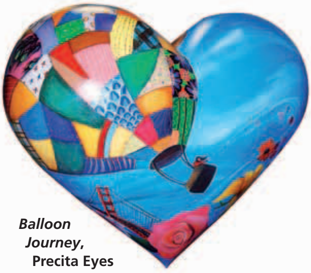
Some of the best examples of San Francisco's historical mural art can be found inside Coit Tower, where a series of panels, funded during the Great Depression of the 1930s by President Roosevelt's New Deal program, is typical of the period. Many local artists participated in creating the work, and themes include the struggles of the working class and the rich resources of California. The city has since been decorated with a number of modern murals, most notably by the Precita Eyes Mural Arts Studio.

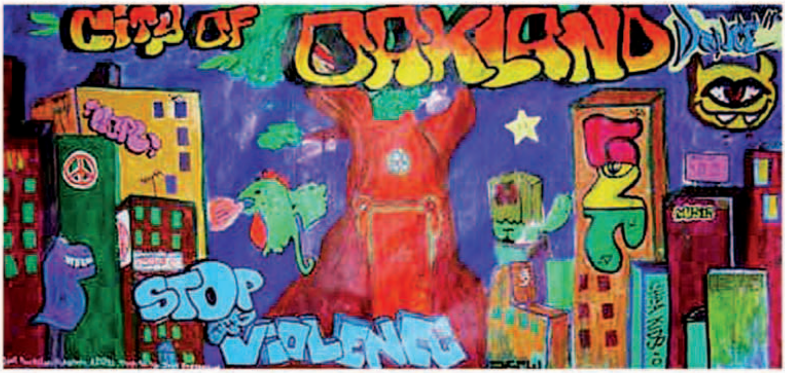

Detail from Coit Tower mural focuses on California's rich resources


Coit Tower mural showing life during the Depression years

Precita Eyes Mural Arts Association *is a community-based organization that seeks to promote the mural arts through collaborative projects. They also sponsor new murals by established artists and run lively mural tours around San Francisco.*

Mosaic mural (2007) by Precita Eyes, Hillcrest school


Balloon Journey, Precita Eyes

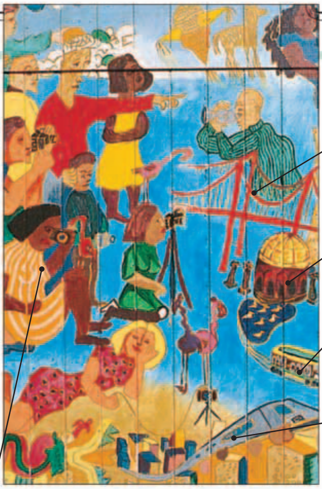


This mural *was designed and painted by AYPAL (Asian Pacific Islander Youth Promoting Advocacy and Leadership) students in 2007, in association with Precita Eyes. The organization runs a number of community and youth workshops, which produce between 15 and 30 new murals every year. Visitors can see examples of these throughout the Bay Area.*

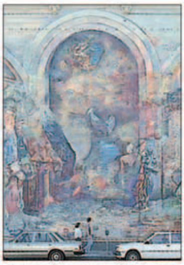
Stop the Violence **at 1212 Broadway #400, Oakland**

LIFE TODAY

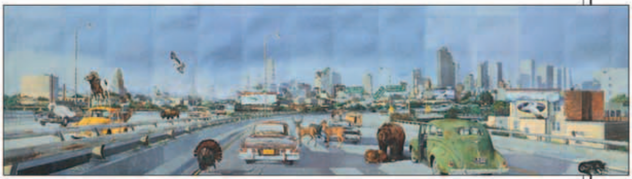
Life in the modern metropolis is one of the major themes of mural art in San Francisco, as much now as it was in the 1930s. In the Mission District particularly, every aspect of daily life is illustrated on the walls of banks, schools and restaurants, with lively scenes of the family, community, political activity and people at work and play. The Mission District contains around 200 murals, many painted in the 1970s, as part of a city program that paid young people to create works of art in public places. The San Francisco Arts Commission continues to foster this art form.



This Balmy Alley mural *is a view of the city as tourists see it. The alley, in the Mission District, is decorated with numerous vivid murals, first painted by local children, artists and community workers in the 1970s. The works are now a major attraction.*



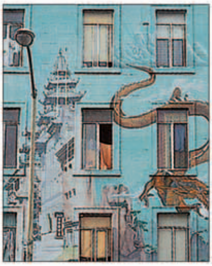
The Learning Wall, Franklin St., depicts education and art



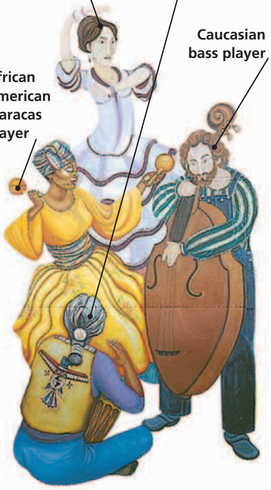
***Positively Fourth Street,* a weathered mural at Fort Mason**

THE MULTICULTURAL CITY

San Francisco's heritage of diversity and tolerance comes alive in the murals that enliven its ethnic neighborhoods. In Chinatown, Chinese-American artists evoke memories of the "old country." The Mission District is filled with art, some of it politically inspired, celebrating the struggles and achievements of its Mexican and Latin American population.



Mural in Washington Street encapsulating life in China

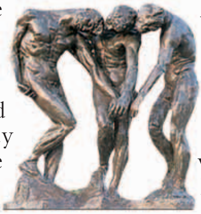


Multicultural San Francisco *is celebrated at Park Branch Library in Haight Ashbury.*

WHERE TO FIND THE MURALS

Balmy Alley. **Map** 11 A5
Clarion Alley. **Map** 10 F2
Coit Tower *p93*
Dolores and 18th St. **Map** 10 E3
Fort Mason *pp74–5*
Franklin Street. **Map** 4 E1
Oakland. *p164*
Park Branch Library
  1833 Page St. **Map** 9 B1
Precita Eyes Mural Arts Studio
  348 Precita Ave. **Map** 10 F5
Washington Street. **Map** 11 A2

GOLDEN GATE PARK AND LAND'S END



Auguste Rodin's *The Shades*, the Legion of Honor

Lying to the south of the Richmond District is the spectacular Golden Gate Park, a masterpiece of landscape gardening, created in the 1890s out of a sandy wasteland. Little grows here by chance, and trees have been planted where they will best deflect the prevailing winds. All shrubs and bushes are carefully chosen to ensure there is color at every season. Among the many attractions of the park are meandering paths, sports facilities ranging from archery to golf, and three major museums. More parklands lie to the north and west of the Richmond District, linked by the Coastal Trail. This is where rugged Land's End, the scene of so many shipwrecks, meets the sea. Nearby Lincoln Park, with its manicured golf course, makes a dramatic contrast.

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Museums and Galleries

California Academy of Sciences pp150–1 ②
de Young Museum ④
Legion of Honor ⑯

Parks and Gardens

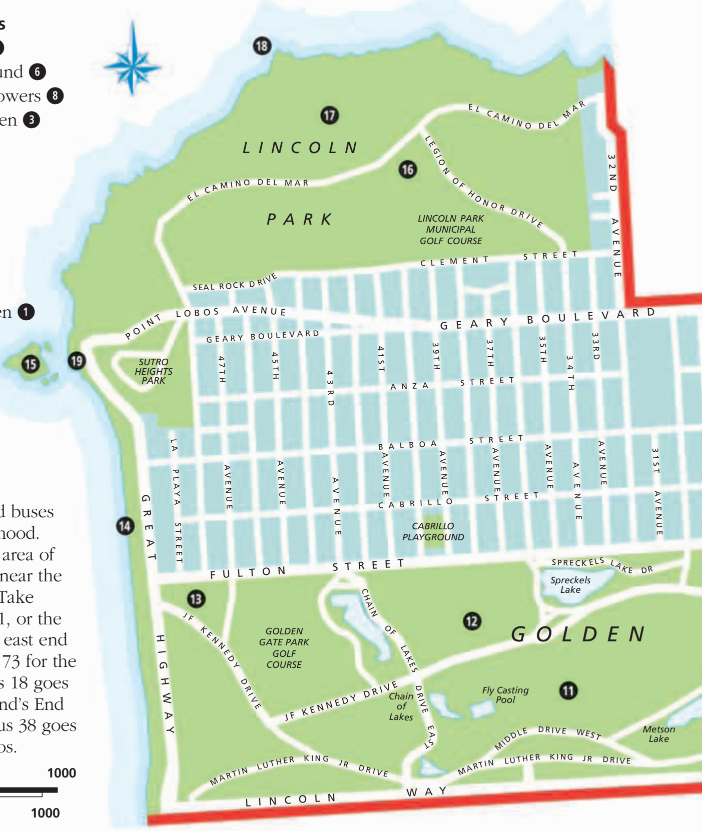
Buffalo Paddock ⑫
Children's Playground ⑥
Conservatory of Flowers ⑧
Japanese Tea Garden ③
Land's End ⑱
Lincoln Park ⑰
Ocean Beach ⑭
Polo Fields ⑪
Queen Wilhelmina Tulip Garden ⑬
Seal Rocks ⑮
Shakespeare Garden ①
Stow Lake ⑩
Strybing Arboretum ⑨

Historic Buildings

Cliff House ⑲
Columbarium ⑦
McLaren Lodge ⑤

KEY

▨ Street-by-Street map *See pp144–5*



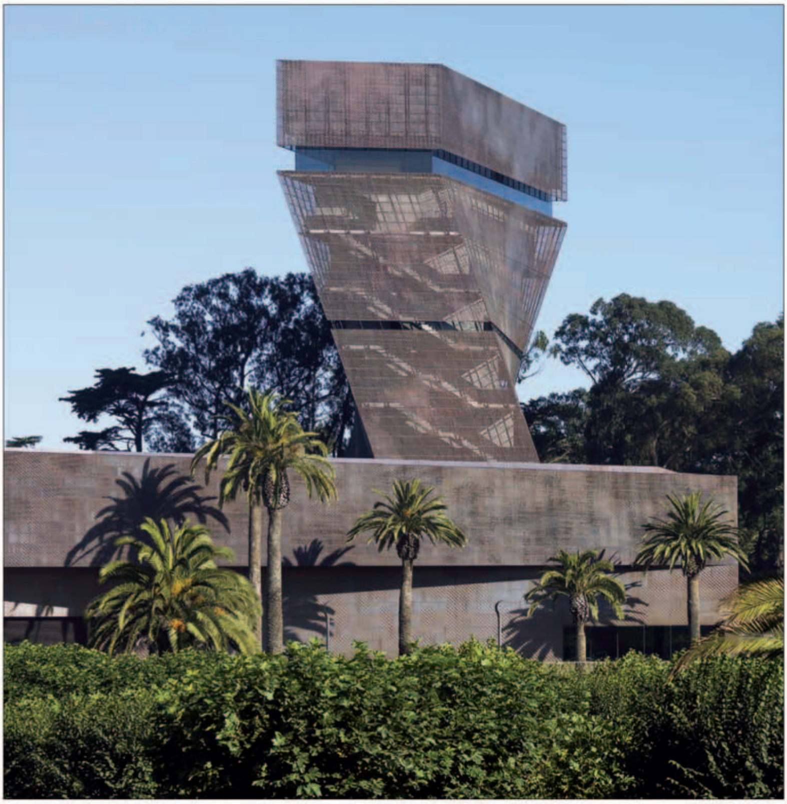
⑱
⑰
LINCOLN
PARK
EL CAMINO DEL MAR
EL CAMINO DEL MAR
⑯
LEGION OF HONOR DRIVE
LINCOLN PARK MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE
32ND AVENUE
CLEMENT STREET
SEAL ROCK DRIVE
POINT LOBOS AVENUE
GEARY BOULEVARD
GEARY BOULEVARD
SUTRO HEIGHTS PARK
⑮
⑲
47TH
45TH
43RD
41ST
39TH
37TH
35TH
34TH
33RD
ANZA STREET
BALBOA STREET
CABRILLO STREET
AVENUE
31ST AVENUE
LA PLAYA STREET
GREAT HIGHWAY
⑭
CABRILLO PLAYGROUND
FULTON STREET
SPRECKELS LAKE DR
Spreckels Lake
⑬
JF KENNEDY DRIVE
GOLDEN GATE PARK GOLF COURSE
CHAIN OF LAKES DRIVE EAST
⑫
GOLDEN
Fly Casting Pool
⑪
Chain of Lakes
JF KENNEDY DRIVE
MIDDLE DRIVE WEST
Metson Lake
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DRIVE
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DRIVE
LINCOLN WAY

GETTING THERE

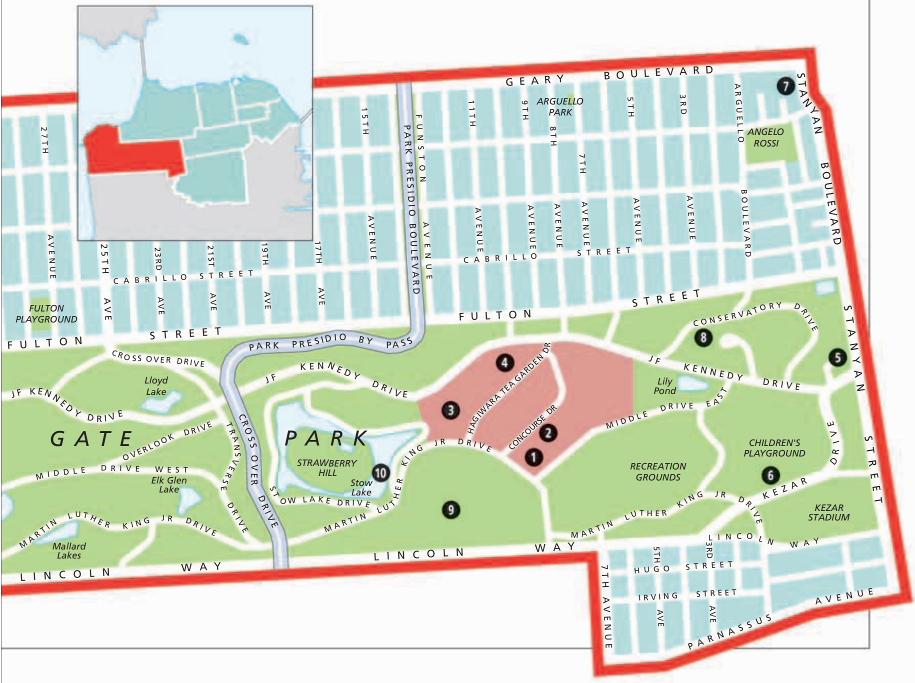
Muni streetcars and buses serve the neighborhood. Bus 44 goes to the area of Golden Gate Park near the Music Concourse. Take buses 5, 7, 21 or 71, or the N streetcar, for the east end of the park, or the 73 for the southern edge. Bus 18 goes to Lincoln Park, Land's End and Cliff House. Bus 38 goes as far as Point Lobos.

0 meters 1000

0 yards 1000



Distinctive architecture of the de Young Museum in Golden Gate Park

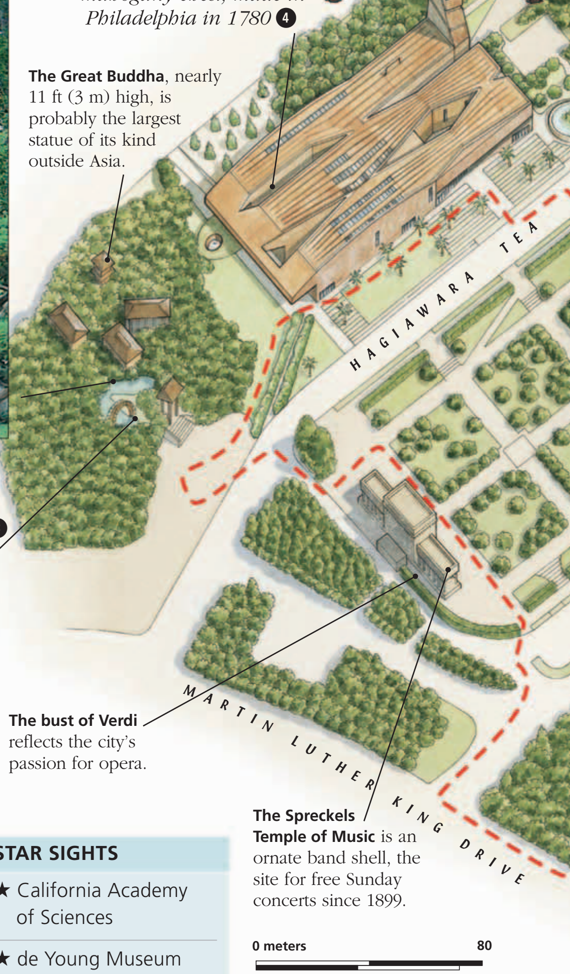

GEARY
BOULEVARD
ARGUELLO PARK
ANGELO ROSSI
STANYAN BOULEVARD
27TH AVENUE
25TH AVE
23RD AVE
21ST AVE
19TH AVE
17TH AVE
15TH AVENUE
FUNSTON AVENUE
PARK PRESIDIO BOULEVARD
11TH AVENUE
9TH AVENUE
8TH AVENUE
7TH AVENUE
5TH AVENUE
3RD AVENUE
ARGUELLO BOULEVARD
CABRILLO STREET
CABRILLO STREET
FULTON PLAYGROUND
FULTON STREET
FULTON STREET
CONSERVATORY DRIVE
STANYAN STREET
PARK PRESIDIO BY PASS
CROSS OVER DRIVE
JF KENNEDY DRIVE
JF KENNEDY DRIVE
JF KENNEDY DRIVE
Lloyd Lake
HAGIWARA TEA GARDEN DR
CONCOURSE DR
Lily Pond
MIDDLE DRIVE EAST
GATE
PARK
OVERLOOK DRIVE
TRANSVERSE DRIVE
CROSS OVER DRIVE
STRAWBERRY HILL
Stow Lake
STOW LAKE DRIVE
MIDDLE DRIVE WEST
Elk Glen Lake
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DRIVE
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DRIVE
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DRIVE
RECREATION GROUNDS
CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND
KEZAR DRIVE
KEZAR STADIUM
Mallard Lakes
LINCOLN WAY
LINCOLN WAY
LINCOLN WAY
7TH AVENUE
5TH AVE
3RD AVE
HUGO STREET
IRVING STREET
PARNASSUS AVENUE
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

Street-by-Street: Golden Gate Park

Lamp in the Japanese Tea Garden

Golden Gate Park is one of the largest urban parks in the world. It stretches from the Pacific Ocean to the center of San Francisco, forming an oasis of greenery and calm in which to escape from the bustle of city life. Within the park an amazing number of activities are possible, both sporting and cultural. The landscaped area around the Music Concourse, with its fountains, plane trees and benches, is the most popular and developed section. Here you can enjoy free Sunday concerts at the Spreckels Temple of Music. Two museums stand on either side of the Concourse, and the Japanese and Shakespeare gardens are in walking distance.

★ de Young Museum
This state-of-the-art, landmark museum showcases collections from around the world. Exhibits include this mahogany chest, made in Philadelphia in 1780 ④



The Great Buddha, nearly 11 ft (3 m) high, is probably the largest statue of its kind outside Asia.

Japanese Tea Garden
This exquisite garden, with its well-tended plants, is one of the most attractive parts of the park ③

The bridge in the Japanese Tea Garden is known as the Moon Bridge. It arches steeply, and its reflection in the water below forms a perfect circle.

The bust of Verdi reflects the city's passion for opera.

The Spreckels Temple of Music is an ornate band shell, the site for free Sunday concerts since 1899.

STAR SIGHTS

- ★ California Academy of Sciences
- ★ de Young Museum

0 meters 80
0 yards 80

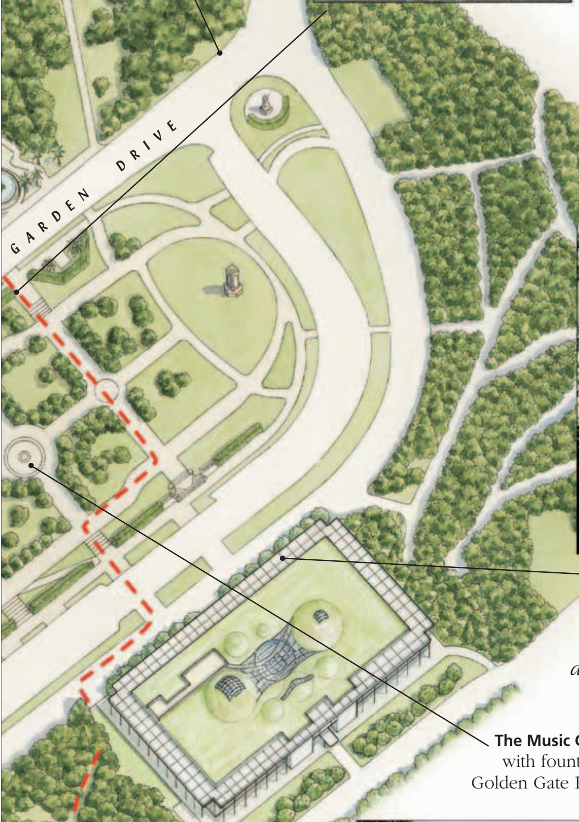
The bust of Miguel de Cervantes, the Spanish author, was sculpted by Jo Mora. He is depicted with his two fictional creations, Don Quixote and Sancho Panza.

Pacific Ocean
PRESIDIO
GOLDEN GATE PARK AND LAND'S END

LOCATOR MAP
See Street Finder, map 8

The statue of the *Apple Cider Press*, by sculptor Thomas Shields-Clarke, is one of the few monuments to survive from the California Midwinter Fair of 1894.

The John McLaren Rhododendron Dell is planted in memory of the superintendent *(see p146)* of Golden Gate Park.



★ California Academy of Sciences
This complex combines an aquarium, a planetarium, a museum, and a research facility (see pp150–51) ②

The Music Concourse, a formally landscaped area with fountains, benches, and trees, is where the Golden Gate Band performs on Sundays (Apr–Oct).

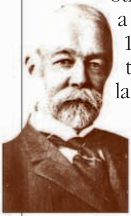
Shakespeare Garden
This tiny garden holds more than 150 species of plants, all mentioned in Shakespeare's poetry or plays ①

KEY

- - - Suggested route

The Creation of Golden Gate Park

As San Francisco prospered and matured in the 1860s, its citizens demanded the same amenities as other great cities. Prominent among these was a large city park, for which they petitioned in 1865. New York had just finished building its trendsetting Central Park, created largely by landscape designer Frederick Law Olmsted. San Francisco's mayor, HP Coon, sought Olmsted's advice on a piece of land that the city had recently secured for a park. This vast, undeveloped wasteland to the west of the city by the Pacific Ocean was known as the "Outside Lands."


William H. Hall

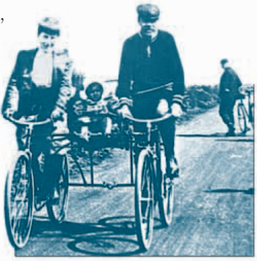
Reclaiming the Land

The city planners turned to a surveyor and engineer named William Hammond Hall. He had already achieved some success in dune reclamation in the Outside Lands, and in 1870 he applied his methods to Golden Gate Park. Hall was appointed the park's first superintendent in 1871. He started work at the east end, laying out meandering roads and trying to create a seemingly natural landscape. The developing park soon proved popular. Families came to picnic and young dandies raced their carriages.

The Plan Falters

Despite the popularity of the park, it was nearly prevented from reaching maturity by public corruption.

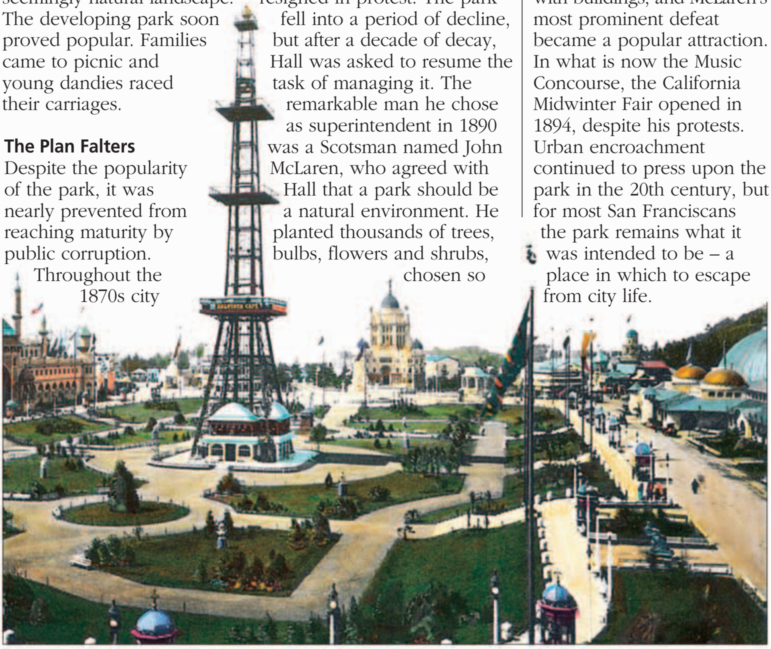
Throughout the 1870s city officials siphoned off funds and the budget was repeatedly cut. In 1876 Hall was falsely accused of corruption and resigned in protest. The park fell into a period of decline, but after a decade of decay, Hall was asked to resume the task of managing it. The remarkable man he chose as superintendent in 1890 was a Scotsman named John McLaren, who agreed with Hall that a park should be a natural environment. He planted thousands of trees, bulbs, flowers and shrubs, chosen so blooms would appear each month. He also imported exotic plants from around the world. These thrived in his care, despite the poor soil and foggy climate of San Francisco. McLaren devoted his whole life to the park, personally fighting the developers who threatened encroachment. He died at the age of 93, after 53 years in office.


Cyclists in Golden Gate Park

John McLaren

The Changing Park

The park still reflects the vision of McLaren and Hall, but contrary to their plans, the park today is scattered with buildings, and McLaren's most prominent defeat became a popular attraction. In what is now the Music Concourse, the California Midwinter Fair opened in 1894, despite his protests. Urban encroachment continued to press upon the park in the 20th century, but for most San Franciscans the park remains what it was intended to be – a place in which to escape from city life.


1894 California Midwinter Fair

Plaques in the Shakespeare Garden

Shakespeare Garden ❶

Music Concourse, Golden Gate Park. **Map** 8 F2. 🚌 *44.* 📷

Gardeners here have tried to cultivate all the plants mentioned in William Shakespeare's works. The relevant quotes are written on plaques set in a wall at the back of the garden.

California Academy of Sciences ❷

See pp150–51.

Japanese Tea Garden ❸

Music Concourse, Golden Gate Park. **Map** 8 F2. ***Tel*** *752-4227.* 🚌 *44.* ○ *9am–6pm daily (Nov–Feb: to 4:45pm).* 🎫 📷 ▭ 🛍 **www**.japaneseteagardensf.com

Established by the art dealer George Turner Marsh for the California Midwinter Fair of 1894 *(see p146)*, this garden is a popular attraction. The best time to visit is when the cherry trees bloom in April. Paths wind through the carefully manicured Japanese trees, shrubs, and flowers. The steeply arched Moon Bridge forms a dramatic circular reflection in the pond below. The largest bronze Buddha to be found outside Asia, which was cast in Japan in 1790, is seated at the top of the garden stairs.

de Young Museum ❹

50 Tea Garden Drive, Golden Gate Park. **Map** 8 F2. ***Tel*** *863-3330.* 🚌 *5, 21, 44.* 🚋 *N.* ○ *9:30am–5:15pm Tue–Sun (to 8:45pm Fri).* 🎫 *(free first Tue of month).* ♿ **www**.famsf.org

Founded in 1895, the de Young Museum houses one of the city's finest art collections. In 1989 the building was too damaged by an earthquake to be saved. However, an exciting state-of-the-art facility opened in 2005. The museum contains a broad range of American art, as well as extensive pre-Columbian-American, African, and Oceanic works. The American art collection comprises more than 1,000 paintings.

McLaren Lodge ❺

Nr junction of Stanyan St and Fell St on the park's east side. **Map** 9 B1. ***Tel*** *831-2700.* ○ *8:30am–5pm Mon–Fri.* 🚌 *7, 21.*

This sandstone villa, designed by Edward Swain, was built in 1896. As superintendent of the park, John McLaren lived here with his family until his death in 1943. His portrait hangs on the wall, and every December the cypress tree outside is lit with colored lights in his memory. The lodge is now a park office that also dispenses maps and information.

Gateway in the Japanese Tea Garden

Children's Playground ❻

Kezar Drive, near First Ave. **Map** 9 A1. 🚌 *5, 7, 71.* 🚋 *N. No adults allowed unless accompanied by children.*

This is the oldest public children's playground in the United States, and it set the style for many later ones. In 1978 it was redesigned with sandboxes, swings, sprawling slides and a climbing "fortress." On the Herschell-Spillman merry-go-round, housed in a Greek-inspired structure that dates from 1892, children ride on brightly painted beasts.

Inside the Columbarium

Columbarium ❼

1 Loraine Court. **Map** 3 B5. ***Tel*** *752-7891.* 🚌 *33, 38.* ○ *9am–5pm Mon–Fri, 10am–3pm Sat–Sun.* ● *Jan 1, Thanksgiving, and Dec 25.* 📷 ♿ *ground floor only.*

The San Francisco Columbarium is the sole survivor of the old Lone Mountain Cemetery, which once covered sizable tracts of the Richmond District. Most of the remains were disinterred and moved to Colma in 1914. This Neo-Classical rotunda houses the remains of 6,000 people in elaborate decorated urns. Unused for several decades, it was rescued and restored by the Neptune Society in 1979. The ornate, bright interior under the dome has lovely stained-glass windows. The narrow passages encircling the dome are remarkable for their acoustics.

Carousel ride at the Children's Playground in Golden Gate Park ▷

California Academy of Sciences ❷

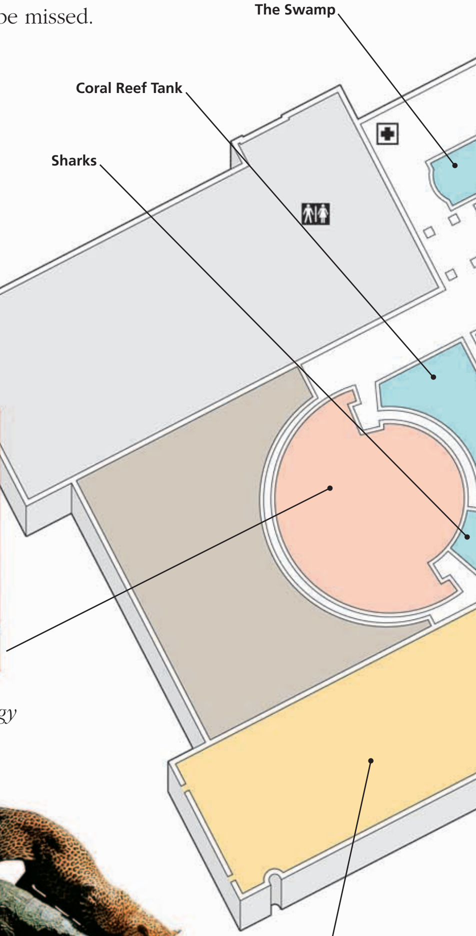
The California Academy of Sciences settled in its permanent home in Golden Gate Park in late 2008. The building, housing Steinhart Aquarium, Morrison Planetarium, and the Kimball Natural History Museum, combines innovative green architecture with flexible exhibition spaces. A lovely piazza is at the heart of the building, and the 2.5-acre living roof, which can be admired from the rooftop viewing deck, is not to be missed.

A penguin in the African Hall

Guide and child meeting a resident alligator

MUSEUM GUIDE

Steinhart Aquarium displays are spread throughout the museum, but most of the tanks can be found in the basement beneath the Piazza. An auditorium above the café hosts traveling exhibits as well as special performances and programs. The back of the building holds the museum's collection of over 26 million scientific specimens along with staff offices and research laboratories.

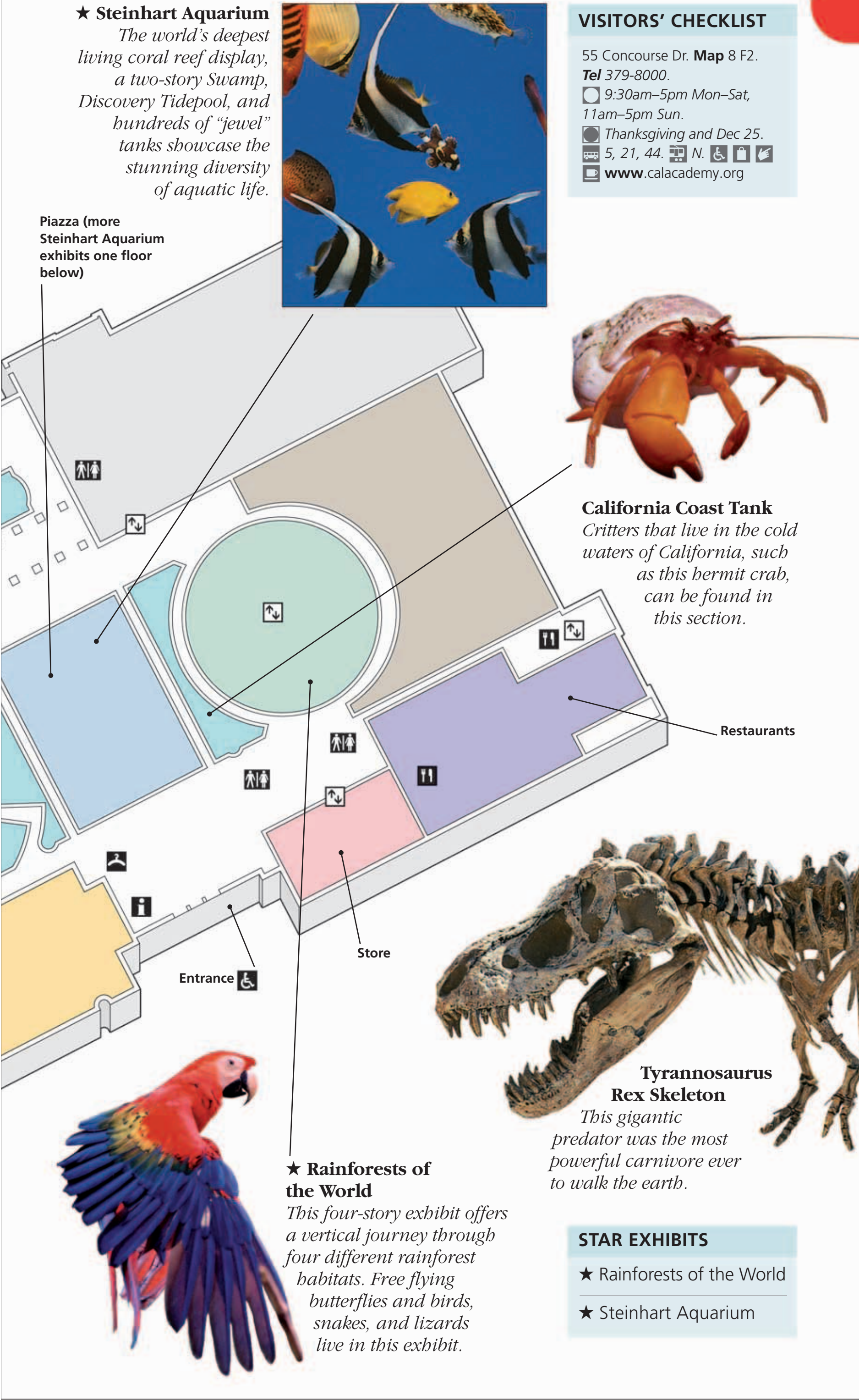


Morrison Planetarium
State-of-the-art exhibits and digital technology transform the ceiling here into a night sky.

KEY TO FLOOR PLAN

- 🟨 African Hall
- 🟫 Kimball Natural History Museum
- 🟧 Morrison Planetarium
- 🟩 Rainforests of the World
- 🟦 Steinhart Aquarium
- 🟦 Aquarium Tanks
- ⬜ Non-exhibition space

African Hall
Realistic models of animals from Africa's jungles and savannas are displayed here, in lifelike dioramas.



★ Steinhart Aquarium
The world's deepest living coral reef display, a two-story Swamp, Discovery Tidepool, and hundreds of "jewel" tanks showcase the stunning diversity of aquatic life.

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

55 Concourse Dr. **Map** 8 F2.
Tel *379-8000.*
○ *9:30am–5pm Mon–Sat, 11am–5pm Sun.*
● *Thanksgiving and Dec 25.*
🚌 *5, 21, 44.* 🚋 *N.* ♿ 🛍 ✋
🖳 **www**.calacademy.org

California Coast Tank
Critters that live in the cold waters of California, such as this hermit crab, can be found in this section.

Tyrannosaurus Rex Skeleton
This gigantic predator was the most powerful carnivore ever to walk the earth.

★ Rainforests of the World
This four-story exhibit offers a vertical journey through four different rainforest habitats. Free flying butterflies and birds, snakes, and lizards live in this exhibit.

STAR EXHIBITS

- ★ Rainforests of the World
- ★ Steinhart Aquarium

Glass-house at the Conservatory of Flowers

Conservatory of Flowers ⑧

John F. Kennedy Drive, Golden Gate Park. **Map** 9 A1. ***Tel*** *666-7001.* 🚌 *33, 44.* ◯ *10am–4pm Tue–Sun.* 🎟 *(free 1st Tue of the month.)* ♿ **www**.conservatoryofflowers.org

This ornate glass-house was the oldest building in Golden Gate Park. A jungle of ferns, palms and orchids thrived here but a hurricane battered the city in December 1995, and the conservatory was largely destroyed. A campaign for its repair was launched, and it reopened in 2003.

Strybing Arboretum ⑨

9th Ave at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park. **Map** 8 F2. ***Tel*** *661-1316.* 🚌 *44, 71.* 🚋 *N.* ◯ *8am–4:30pm Mon–Fri, 10am–5pm weekends and public hols.* 📷 ♿ 👥 *1:30pm daily.* 🛍 **www**.sfbotanicalgarden.org

On display are 7,500 species of plants, trees and shrubs from many different countries. There are Mexican, African, South American and Australian gardens, and one devoted to native California plants.

Well worth a visit is the enchanting Moon-Viewing Garden. It exhibits East Asian plants in a setting that, unlike that of the Japanese Tea Garden *(see p147)*, is naturalistic rather than formal. Both medicinal and culinary plants grow in the Garden of Fragrance, which is designed for blind plant-lovers. Here the emphasis is on the senses of taste, touch and smell, and the plants are identified in braille. Another area is planted with indigenous California redwood trees, with a small stream winding through. This re-creates the flora and atmosphere of a northern California coastal forest. There is also a New World Cloud Forest, with flora from the mountains of Central America. Surprisingly, all these gardens thrive in the California fogs. The Arboretum has a shop, selling seeds and books, and it also houses the Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture, which is open to the public. A flower show is held in the summer *(see p49)*.

Stow Lake ⑩

Stow Lake Drive, Golden Gate Park. **Map** 8 E2. 🚌 *28, 29, 44.* ◯ *10am–4pm daily.* 🚣 ***Boat rental*** *752-0347.*

In 1895 this artificial lake was created encircling Strawberry Hill, so that the summit of the hill now forms an island in the lake, linked to the mainland by two stone-clad bridges. Stow Lake's circular stream makes an ideal course for rowing laps from the boathouse, though leisurely drifting seems more appropriate. There is a Chinese moon-watching pavilion on the island's shore, which was the gift of San Francisco's sister city in Taiwan, Taipei. The red and green pavilion was shipped to San Francisco in 6,000 pieces and then assembled on the island.

The millionaire Collis P. Huntington *(see p102)* donated the money to create the reservoir and the waterfall that cascades into Stow Lake. This is known as Huntington Falls and is one of the park's most attractive features.

Moon-watching pavilion on Stow Lake

Queen Wilhelmina Tulip Garden and the Dutch Windmill

Polo Fields ⑪

John F. Kennedy Drive, Golden Gate Park. **Map** 7 C2. 🚌 *5, 29.*

You are increasingly likely to see joggers rather than polo ponies using the Polo Fields stadium in the more open western half of Golden Gate Park. Horses, on which to explore the park's equestrian trails and the Bercut Equitation Field, are available by the hour at the adjacent riding stables. For anglers, there is a fly-casting pool nearby.

To the east of the stadium, in the green expanse of Old Speedway Meadows, many celebrations were held during the late 1960s, including some notable rock concerts. The Grateful Dead and Jefferson Airplane, among others, played here. Here in the spring of 1967, thousands attended a huge "Be-in," one of many events that led to the "Summer of Love" *(see pp32–3).*

Buffalo Paddock ⑫

John F. Kennedy Drive, Golden Gate Park. **Map** 7 C2. 🚌 *5, 29.*

The shaggy buffalo that graze in this paddock are the largest of North American land animals. With its short horns and humped back, the buffalo is the symbol of the American plains and is more properly known as the American bison. This paddock was opened in 1892, at a time when the buffalo was on the verge of extinction. In 1902 William Cody, alias "Buffalo Bill," traded one of his bulls for one from the Golden Gate Park herd. Both parties thought that they had rid themselves of an aggressive beast, but Cody's newly purchased bull jumped a high fence once back at his encampment and escaped. According to one newspaper of the day, the *San Francisco Call*, it took a total of 80 men to recapture it.

Queen Wilhelmina Tulip Garden ⑬

Map 7 A2. 🚌 *5, 18.* **Windmill** ♿

The Dutch windmill was built near the northwest corner of Golden Gate Park in 1903. Its original purpose was to pump water from an underground source for irrigating the park, but now it is no longer in use. Its companion, the Murphy Windmill, was erected in the park's south-west corner in 1905. The garden was named after the Dutch Queen Wilhelmina, and tulip bulbs are donated each year by the Dutch Bulb Growers' Association.

Ocean Beach ⑭

Map 7 A1–5. 🚌 *5, 18, 31, 38, 71.* 🚋 *L, N.*

Most of San Francisco's western boundary is defined by this broad sweep of sand. Though sublime when viewed from Cliff House or Sutro Heights, the beach is dangerous for swimming because of its icy waters and a strong undertow. Surfers in wetsuits are a common sight, but there is often a stiff wind, or fog. On rare hot days, it is also a popular spot for sunbathers and picnickers.

Seal Rocks ⑮

Map 7 A1. ***Not accessible*** *to visitors. View from Ocean Beach, Cliff House or Sutro Heights Park.* 🚌 *18, 38.*

Bring binoculars to watch the sea lions and birds in their natural setting. At night, from the beach or Cliff House promenade, the barking of the sea lions is both reassuring and eerie, especially when it is foggy. On a clear day you can see the Farallon Islands 32 miles (51 km) off the coast. These are also inhabited by sea lions and contain a rookery that has been protected by the state since 1907.

Looking out toward Seal Rocks from Ocean Beach

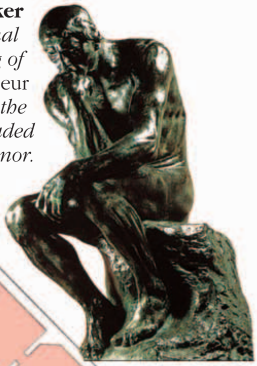
Golden Gate Bridge from Lincoln Park golf course ▷

17

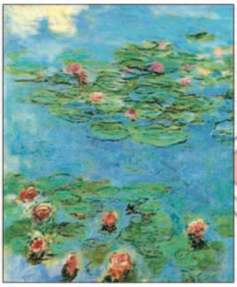
Legion of Honor ⑯

Inspired by the Palais de la Légion d'Honneur in Paris, Alma de Bretteville Spreckels built this museum in the 1920s to promote French art in California and to commemorate the state's casualties in World War I. Designed by the architect George Applegarth, it contains European art from the last eight centuries, with paintings by Monet, Rubens, and Rembrandt, as well as over 70 sculptures by Rodin. The Achenbach Foundation, a famous collection of graphic works, is also part of the gallery.

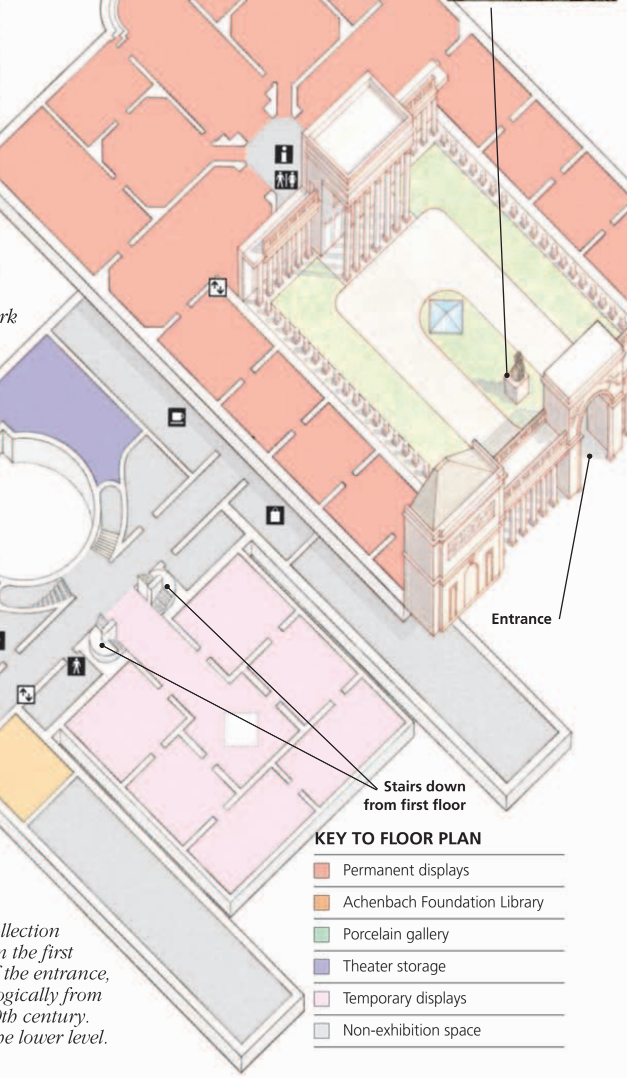
Bust of Camille Claudel by Rodin



★ The Thinker
This original bronze casting of Rodin's Le Penseur *(1904) is in the colonnaded Court of Honor.*



★ Waterlilies
Claude Monet's famous work (c.1914–17) is one of a series depicting his lily pond.



St. Wenceslaus
Figurine, made c.1732, after a model by Johann Gottlieb Kirchner.

GALLERY GUIDE

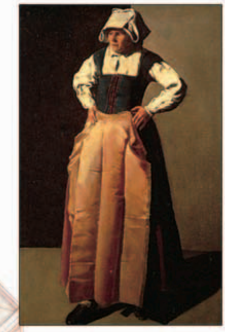
The museum's permanent collection is displayed in 19 galleries on the first floor. Beginning at the left of the entrance, works are arranged chronologically from the medieval period to the 20th century. Current exhibitions are on the lower level.

KEY TO FLOOR PLAN

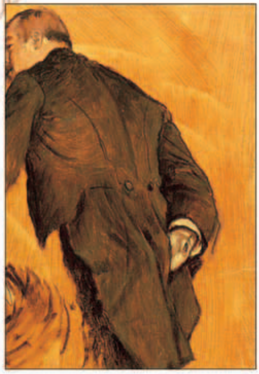
🟥	Permanent displays
🟧	Achenbach Foundation Library
🟩	Porcelain gallery
🟪	Theater storage
▨	Temporary displays
⬜	Non-exhibition space

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Lincoln Park, 34th Ave and Clement St. **Map** 1 B5. ***Tel*** *750-3600.* ℹ *863-3330.* 🚌 *18.* ◯ *9:30am–5pm Tue–Sun. Appointment needed to see Achenbach Collection, phone for more information.* 🎟 *(free first Tuesday of the month).* ⊘ ♿ 🎧 ***Lectures, films.*** ☕ 🛍 **www**.legionofhonor.org



Old Woman
Georges de la Tour painted this study in about 1618.



The Impresario
In this portrait (c.1877), artist Edgar Degas emphasizes the subject's size by making him appear too large for the frame.

STAR EXHIBITS

- ★ The Thinker
- ★ Waterlilies

Golden Gate Bridge from Lincoln Park Golf Course

Lincoln Park ⑰

Map 1 B5. 🚌 *18.*

This splendid park, located above the Golden Gate Park is the setting for the Legion of Honor. The land was originally allocated to Golden Gate Cemetery, where graves were segregated according to the nationality of their occupants. When these graves were cleared in the first decade of the 20th century, the park was established and landscaped by John McLaren *(see p146).*

The park now boasts an 18-hole golf course and scenic walks. City views from the hilltop course are superb.

Land's End ⑱

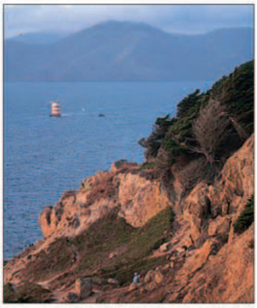
Map 1 B5. 🚌 *18, 38.*

A rugged seascape of rock, cliff and matted cypress woods, Land's End is the wildest part of San Francisco. It is reached by foot along the Coastal Trail, which can be accessed by stairs from the Legion of Honor, or from the Point Lobos parking area near Sutro Heights Park. The Coastal Trail is safe, ending in a spectacular viewing point overlooking the Golden Gate. Do not leave the trail. Those who do risk being stranded by incoming tides or swept away by high waves. Call the National Parks Service Visitors Center (tel: 556-8642) for tide information. Mile Rock Lighthouse can be seen offshore from here.

Cliff House ⑲

1090 Point Lobos. **Map** 7 A1. ***Tel*** *386-3330 (Visitor Center).* 🚌 *18, 38.* ◯ *daily.* 🎟 *Camera Obscura only (9am–11pm daily).* 📷 ♿ 🛍 🍴 **www**.cliffhouse.com

Built in 1909, the present building, which was renovated in 2004, is the third on this site. Its predecessor, an elaborate eight-story Gothic structure that burned down in 1907, was built by the flamboyant entrepreneur Adolph Sutro. His estate on the hill overlooking Cliff House is now Sutro Heights Park. There are several restaurants on the upper levels, occasional live music, and three observation decks with panoramic views. Camera Obscura is located on the lower level.



View across to Mile Rock Lighthouse from Land's End

50

FARTHER AFIELD

Detail from Sather Gate at UC Berkeley

San Francisco is the smallest in size of the nine counties that encircle the bay. The settlements that were once summer retreats are today sprawling suburbs or cities in their own right. To the north of Golden Gate Bridge, Marin County has a wild, windswept coastline, forests of redwoods, and Mount Tamalpais, which offers magnificent views of the Bay Area. Marin's settlements have retained their village atmosphere, and the county is the perfect escape for visitors who want an afternoon away from the metropolis. In the East Bay, the most popular destinations are Oakland's museum and harbor, and Berkeley's gardens and famous university. To the south, San Francisco Zoo has plenty to entertain younger sightseers.

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Museums and Galleries

Lawrence Hall of Science ⑬
Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life ⑯
Oakland Museum of California pp166–7 ㉓

Parks and Gardens

Angel Island ⑧
Mount Tamalpais ⑤
Muir Woods ④
San Francisco Zoological Gardens ①
Tilden Park ⑨
University Botanical Gardens ⑭

Churches and Temples

Mormon Temple ⑲

Shops, Markets and Restaurants

Fourth Street ⑩
Gourmet Ghetto ⑪
Jack London Square ㉒
Oakland Chinatown ㉕
Rockridge ⑱
Telegraph Avenue ⑮

Historic Streets and Buildings

Bay Bridge ⑳
Claremont Resort and Spa ⑰
Old Oakland ㉔
University of California at Berkeley ⑫

Historic Towns

Sausalito ⑥
Tiburon ⑦

Lakes

Lake Merritt ㉑

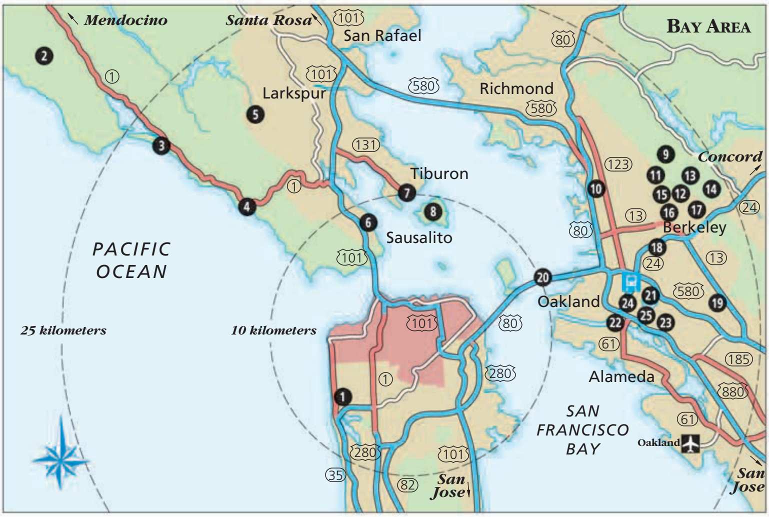
Beaches

Point Reyes National Seashore ②
Stinson Beach ③

KEY

🟥 Main sightseeing areas
🟨 Urban areas
✈ Airport
🚉 Amtrak station
▬ Freeway
▬ Major road
═ Minor road

15 km = 10 miles



Mendocino
Santa Rosa
San Rafael
BAY AREA
Larkspur
Richmond
Tiburon
Concord
Sausalito
Berkeley
PACIFIC OCEAN
Oakland
25 kilometers
10 kilometers
Alameda
SAN FRANCISCO BAY
Oakland
San Jose
San Jose
101
80
580
131
123
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280
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82
185
880
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◁ San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge viewed from Treasure Island

Orangutan in the San Francisco Zoological Gardens

San Francisco Zoo ①

Sloat Blvd and 45th Ave.
Tel *753-7080.* 🚌 *18, 23.* 🚋 *L.*
○ *10am–5pm daily.* 🎫 *free first Wed of every month for SF residents.*
www.sfzoo.com

San Francisco Zoo is at the far southwest corner of the city, between the Pacific Ocean and Lake Merced. The complex houses more than 1,000 species of birds and mammals. Among which 30 are considered to be endangered, including snow leopards, a Bengal tiger and a jaguar. At the innovative Primate Discovery Center there are 15 different species of primates, including monkeys, langurs, and macaques.

One of the zoo's highlights is the Koala Crossing, which is designed like an Australian outback station. Otter River features cascading waterfalls and a live fish feeder for North American river otters. Gorilla World is one of the world's largest naturalistic exhibits. At 2pm every day except Monday, the big cats are fed at the Lion House. Nearby is the Children's Zoo, where animals can be petted.

Point Reyes National Seashore ②

US Highway 1 to Olema; once past town follow signs for Point Reyes National Seashore. 🚌 *Golden Gate Transit bus 50 or 80 to San Rafael Center, then bus 65 (Sat, Sun & hols).*

Point Reyes peninsula is wild and windswept, and a haven for wildlife, including a herd of tule elk. There are cattle and dairy ranches, and three small towns: Olema, Point Reyes Station and Inverness.

The peninsula is due west of the San Andreas Fault, which caused the 1906 earthquake *(see pp18–19)*. A displaced fence on the Earthquake Trail near Bear Valley Visitor Center is evidence of how the Fault caused the peninsula to move a full 20 ft (6 m) north of the mainland.

In 1579 the British explorer Sir Francis Drake is said to have anchored in Drake's Bay *(see pp24–5)*, named the land Nova Albion, and claimed it for England.

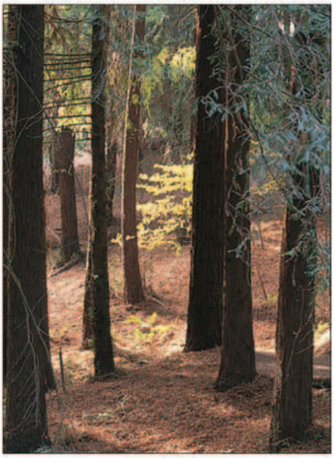
The Visitor Center has tide tables and trail maps. From December to mid March, whales can be seen offshore.

Dairy farm at picturesque Point Reyes

Stinson Beach ③

US 101 N to Highway 1, continue to Stinson Beach. ***Tel*** *Stinson Beach Park 868-0942.* 🚌 *Golden Gate Transit bus 20, then bus 63 (Sat, Sun & hols).*
○ *7am–one hour after sunset daily.*

Since the early days of the 20th century this has been a popular vacation spot; the first visitors came on ferries from San Francisco and were met by horse-drawn carriages. Stinson remains the preferred swimming beach for the whole area. It is a stretch of soft sand, where surfers mingle with swimmers and sunbathers. The village nearby has good bookstores, a few restaurants and a grocery store.



Giant redwoods in Muir Woods

Muir Woods and Beach ④

US 101 N, exit for Highway 1; then either turn onto Panoramic Highway and follow signs to Muir Woods, or stay on Highway 1 to Muir Beach turnoff. No public transportation. ***Tel*** *Gray Line Tours 558-9400.*

Nestling at the foot of Mount Tamalpais is Muir Woods National Monument, one of the few remaining stands of first-growth coast redwoods. These giant trees (the oldest is at least 1,000 years old) once covered the coastal area of California. The woods were named in honor of John Muir, a 19th-century naturalist

The attractive main street of Tiburon

who was one of the first to persuade Americans of the need for conservation.

Redwood Creek bubbles out of Muir Woods and makes its way down to the sea at Muir Beach, a wide expanse of sand popular with beachcombers and picnickers. The road to the beach passes the Pelican Inn. This 16th-century style English inn is extremely proud of its English menu, and its welcoming hospitality.

The beach is likely to be crowded on weekends, but visitors who are prepared to walk a mile or more are usually rewarded with solitude.

Mount Tamalpais ❺

US 101 N, exit for Highway 1, turn on to Panoramic Highway. ***Tel*** *Mount Tamalpais State Park 388-2070.* 🚌 *Golden Gate Transit bus 20 to Marin City, then bus 63 (Sat, Sun & hols).* **Mountain Theater** *East Ridgecrest.* ***Performances*** *May–Jun: Sun except Memorial Day.* ***Reservations Tel*** *383-1100.* **www**.mountainplay.org

Mount Tamalpais State Park, a wilderness nature preserve, has extensive trails that wind through redwood groves and alongside creeks. There are picnic areas, campsites, and meadows for kite flying. Mount Tamalpais, at 2,571 ft (784 m), is the highest peak in the Bay Area; the steep, rough tracks gave rise to the invention of the mountain bike. Near the summit, the Mountain Theater is a natural amphitheater with stone seats, where musicals and plays are performed.

Sausalito ❻

US 101 N, first exit after Golden Gate Bridge, to Bridgeway. 🚌 *Golden Gate Transit buses 10, 50.* ⛴ *from Ferry Building or Pier 43½.* **Bay Model Visitor Center** ***Tel*** *332-3871.* ○ *Apr–Sep: 9am–4pm Tue–Fri, 10am–5pm Sat, Sun & Vacs; Oct–Mar: 9am–4pm Tue–Sat.* ● *Jul 4.*

In this small town that was once a fishing community, Victorian bungalows cling to steep hills rising from the bay. Parallel to the waterfront, Bridgeway Avenue serves as a promenade for the weekend crowds that come to patronize the restaurants and boutiques and enjoy the views. Village Fair is an eclectic assembly of shops in an old warehouse. At 2100 Bridgeway, the Bay Model simulates the movement of the bay's tides and currents.

Looking over to San Francisco from Sausalito

Tiburon ❼

US 101 N, Tiburon Blvd exit.
🚌 *Golden Gate Transit bus 10.*
⛴ *from Pier 43½.*

The main street in this chic waterfront town is lined with shops and restaurants housed in "arks." These are turn-of-the-century houseboats that have been pulled ashore, lined up and refurbished. They now stand in what is called "Ark Row."

Less hectic than Sausalito, Tiburon is a good town for walking, with parks along the scenic waterfront that offer a place for contemplation.

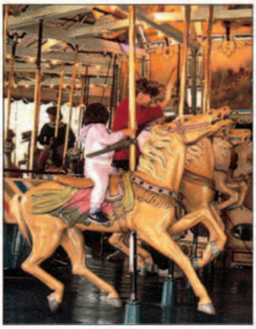
View of Angel Island from the waterfront town of Tiburon

Angel Island ❽

⛴ *from Pier 43½ and Tiburon.*
ℹ *State Park 435-1915.*

Angel Island is reached by ferry from Tiburon and San Francisco. The boats dock at Ayala Cove, which has a sweeping lawn with picnic tables. Hiking trails loop around the heavily wooded island, rising to 776 ft (237 m) above sea level, past an abandoned military garrison that once housed immigrants from Asia. During World War II, prisoners of war were detained here. No motor vehicles are allowed here, except for a few park service vans. Most visitors prefer to walk or bicycle on the island.

Berkeley



Carousel in Tilden Park

Tilden Park ⑨

Tel (510) 843-2137.
🚇 *Berkeley, then AC Transit 67 bus.*
Park *open* *5am–10pm daily.*
Steam trains *11am–5pm daily in summer.* ✍
Carousel *open* *10am–5pm daily (from 11am Sat & Sun).* ✍ ☕
Botanical Garden *open* *8:30am–5pm daily.* 📷 ♿ *limited.*
www.ebparks.org

Though preserved for the most part in a natural wild condition, Tilden Park offers a variety of attractions. It is noted for the enchantingly landscaped Botanical Garden, specializing in California plants. Visitors can stroll from alpine meadows to desert cactus gardens by way of a lovely redwood glen, and there are also guided nature walks. If you have children, don't miss the carousel, the miniature farmyard and the model steam train.

Fourth Street ⑩

🚌 *AC Transit Z.* 🚇 *Berkeley, then AC Transit 9, 51, 65 bus.*

This gentrified enclave north of University Avenue is characteristic of Berkeley's climate of fine craftsmanship and exquisite taste. Here you can buy everything from handmade paper, stained-glass windows and furniture, to organically grown lettuce and designer garden tools. There is also a handful of renowned restaurants *(see pp238–9).*

Gourmet Ghetto ⑪

Upper Shattuck Ave. 🚇 *Berkeley, then AC Transit 7, 9, 43 bus.*

This north Berkeley neighborhood acquired fame as a gourmet's ghetto when Alice Waters opened Chez Panisse *(see p239)* here in 1971. The restaurant is acclaimed for its use of fresh local ingredients in a French-inspired style that gave rise to what is known as California cuisine. In its original house on Shattuck Avenue, Chez Panisse has influenced many worthy imitators. There are also many specialty markets and coffeehouses in the surrounding neighborhood – hence its salubrious nickname.

University of California at Berkeley ⑫

Tel *(510) 642-6000.* 🚇 *Berkeley.* 🚌 *AC Transit 9, 15, 40, 43, 51, 52, 65.* **Hearst Museum of Anthropology *Tel*** *(510) 643-7648.* ○ *10am–4:30pm Wed–Sat, noon–4pm Sun.* ● *public hols.* **Berkeley Art Museum *Tel*** *(510) 642-0808.* ○ *11am–5pm Wed–Sun (to 9pm Fri).* ● *public hols.* ✍ ♿ ☕ ✋ 🛍 **www**.berkeley.edu

Some would argue that UC Berkeley's reputation for countercultural movements sometimes eclipses its reputation for academic excellence. However, Berkeley remains one of the largest and most prestigious universities in the world. Founded as a utopian "Athens of the Pacific" in 1868, Berkeley has more than 10 Nobel Laureates among its fellows and staff. The campus *(see pp176–7)* was laid out by Frederick Law Olmsted on the twin forks of Strawberry Creek; changes by San Francisco architect David Farquharson were later adopted. Today there are over 30,000 students and a wide range of museums, cultural amenities and buildings of note. These include the Berkeley Art Museum *(see p38)*, the Hearst Museum of Anthropology and Sather Tower, also known as the Campanile.

Sather Tower, built in 1914

Lawrence Hall of Science ⑬

Centennial Drive, Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 642-5132.* 🚇 *Berkeley, then AC Transit 8, 65 bus.* 🚌 *from Mining Circle, UC Berkeley (except Sat, Sun).* ○ *10am–5pm daily.* 📷 ♿ ✍ 🛍 ☕ **www**.lawrencehallofscience.org

At this fascinating museum, workshops and classes make science fun. Hands-on exhibits encourage younger visitors to study the effects of mirrors on lasers or manipulate a hologram. They can also build a dinosaur skeleton, feed a snake, plot stars in the planetarium, or calculate odds by rolling dice. Along with a resident mechanical dinosaur, there are changing feature exhibitions, popular with families and children. The stunning view from the outdoor plaza includes much of the northern Bay Area, as far west as the Farallon Islands. By night, the lights around the bay are an extraordinary sight.

Model of DNA at the Lawrence Hall of Science

University Botanical Garden ⑭

Centennial Drive, Berkeley. ℹ *(510) 643-2755.* 🚌 *from Mining Circle, UC Berkeley Hills (except Sat, Sun, hols).* ○ *9am–5pm daily.* ● *public hols & first Tue of month.* 🎫 *free first Thu of month.* 📷 ♿ *limited.* 🛍

More than 12,000 species from all over the world thrive at Berkeley's Strawberry Canyon. Collections are arranged in thematic gardens linked by paths. Particularly noteworthy are the Asian, African, South American, European, and California gardens. The Chinese medicinal herb garden, orchid display, cactus garden, and the carnivorous plants are also well worth a visit.

Telegraph Avenue ⑮

🚇 *Berkeley.* 🚌 *AC Transit U.*

Berkeley's most stimulating street runs between Dwight Way and the University. Telegraph Avenue has one of the highest concentrations of bookstores in the country, and many coffeehouses and cheap eateries. This district was the center of student protest in the 1960s. Today it swarms with students from dawn to long after dusk, along with street vendors, musicians, protestors, and eccentrics.

Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life ⑯

Bancroft Library, University of CA Berkeley, 2121 Allston Way, Berkeley. ***Tel*** *(510) 549-6950.* ℹ *591-8800.* 🚇 *Rockridge, then AC Transit 51 bus.* 🚇 *Ashby, then AC Transit 6 bus.* ○ *2–4pm Tue, Thu & Sun by appt.* ● *Jewish and federal hols.* 🚫 ♿ *arrange in advance.* ☞ *by arrangement.* **www**.magnes.org

This is California's largest collection of historical artifacts pertaining to Jewish culture, from ancient times to today. Among them are fine art treasures from Europe and India, paintings by Marc Chagall and Max Liebermann, and mementos of Nazi Germany, such as a burned Torah scroll rescued from a synagogue. Lectures, films, and traveling exhibits periodically enliven the halls. The Blumenthal Library has permanent resources for scholars.

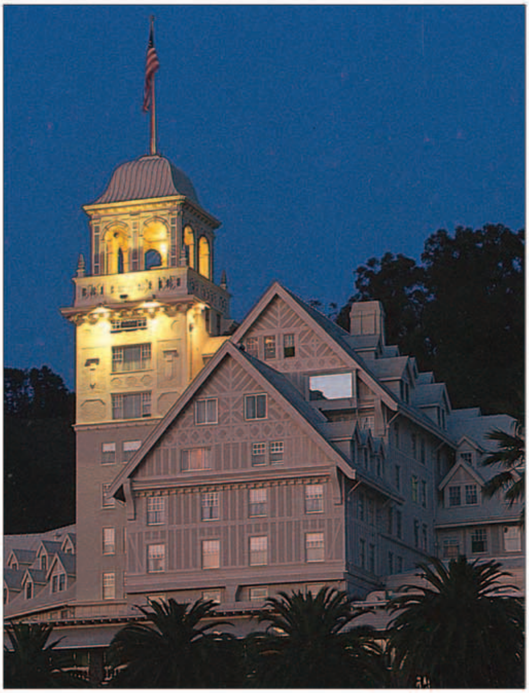
Jewish ceremonial dress, Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life

Claremont Resort and Spa ⑰

41 Tunnel Road (Ashby & Domingo Aves), Oakland. ***Tel*** *(510) 843-3000.* 🚇 *Rockridge, then AC Transit 7 bus.* ♿ 🛍 🍴 🍸 **www**.claremontresort.com

The Berkeley Hills form a backdrop to this half-timbered fairytale castle. Construction began in 1906, and ended in 1915. In the early years the hotel failed to prosper, due partly to a law that forbade the sale of alcohol within a 1-mile (1.6-km) radius of the Berkeley university campus. An enterprising student actually measured the distance in 1937, and found that the radius line passed through the *center* of the building. This revelation led to the founding of the Terrace Bar, beyond the line, in the same corner of the hotel that it occupies today.

As well as being one of the Bay Area's plushest hotels, this is a good place to have a drink and enjoy the views.



View of the Claremont Resort and Spa at Berkeley

Gourmet shops at Rockridge Market Hall

Oakland

Rockridge ⑱

ba *Rockridge.*

A leafy residential area with large houses and flower gardens, Rockridge also attracts shoppers to College Avenue. There are a variety of shops and restaurants as well as many cafés with outdoor tables.

Mormon Temple ⑲

4770 Lincoln Ave, Oakland.
Tel *(510) 531-1475 (Visitors' Center).* ba *Fruitvale, then AC Transit 46 bus.* ○ *9am–9pm daily.*
Temple ○ *Call the Visitors' Center for times.* 🚫 *(except Visitors' Center.)*
♿ ☞ *of Visitors' Center.*

Designed in 1963 and built on a hilltop, this is one of only two Mormon temples in Northern California. Its full name is the Oakland Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints. At night the temple is floodlit and can be seen from Oakland and San Francisco. The central ziggurat is surrounded by four shorter towers, all terraced and clad with white granite and capped by glistening golden pyramids.

From the temple there are magnificent views over the entire Bay Area. The Visitors' Center offers guided tours by missionaries, who explain the tenets of the faith with a series of multimedia presentations.

Lake Merritt ㉑

ba *12th or 19th Street, then AC Transit 12, 13, 57, 58 bus.*

Formed when a saltwater tidal estuary was dredged, embanked and partly dammed, Lake Merritt and its surrounding park form an oasis of rich blue and green in the urban heart of Oakland. Designated in 1870 as the first state game refuge in the United States, Lake Merritt still attracts migrating flocks of birds. Rowers can rent boats from two boathouses on the west and north shores, and joggers and bicyclists can circle the lake on a 3-mile (5-km) path. The north shore at Lakeside Park has flower gardens, an aviary,

Central ziggurat of the Mormon Temple

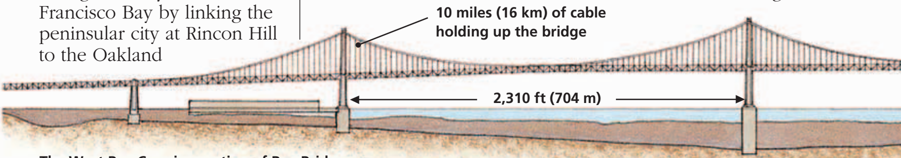
Bay Bridge ⑳

Map 6 E4.

The compound, high-level San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge was designed by Charles H. Purcell. It has two distinct structures, joining at Yerba Buena Island in the middle of the Bay, and reaches 4.5 miles (7.2 km) from shore to shore. Its completion in 1936 heralded the end of the age of ferryboats on San Francisco Bay by linking the peninsular city at Rincon Hill to the Oakland "mainland" with road and rail. The tracks were removed in the 1950s, leaving the bridge for use by more than 250,000 vehicles a day. Five traffic lanes wide, it has two levels: westbound traffic into San Francisco uses the top deck, eastbound to Oakland the lower.

The eastern cantilever section is raised on more than 20 piers. It climbs up from the toll plaza causeway in Oakland to 191 ft (58 m) above the bay at Yerba Buena Island. In 1989 the bridge was

The East Bay Crossing



The West Bay Crossing section of Bay Bridge and a Children's Fairyland where young visitors can enjoy pony rides, puppet shows and nursery rhyme scenes.

Jack London Square ㉒

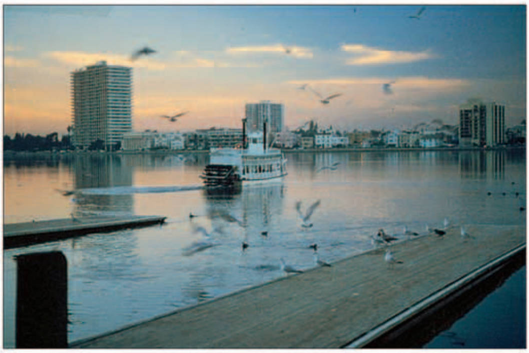
⛴ to Oakland. ba 12th Street, then AC Transit 58, 72, 88 bus.

Jack London, author of *The Call of the Wild* and *White Fang*, grew up in Oakland in the 1880s, and was a frequent visitor to the Oakland Estuary waterfront. You can drive or catch the ferry to its bright, cheerful promenade of shops and restaurants, which have outdoor tables in fine weather. There are also pleasure boats offering trips along the estuary.

Little of the waterfront that London knew remains. However, the writer's footsteps can be traced to Heinold's First and Last Chance Saloon, which has now sunken with age into the street. The Yukon cabin that was purportedly occupied by London during the Gold Rush of 1898 has also been erected at the dockside.

Oakland Museum ㉓

See pp166–7.



View from Oakland across Lake Merritt

Old Oakland ㉔

ba 12th Street.
Farmers' Market ***Tel*** *(510) 745-7100. ○ 8am–2pm Fri.*

Also known as Victorian Row, these two square blocks of wood and brick commercial buildings were erected between the 1860s and 1880s, but they were thoroughly renovated in the 1980s and now contain an array of shops, restaurants, and art galleries. Fridays bring crowds of shoppers to the Farmers' Market, where stalls sell fresh produce and prepared foods. By night, the crowds move to the Pacific Coast Brewing Company on Washington Street. Don't miss 103-year-old Rattos, at 827 Washington Street an Italian delicatessen famed for its Friday and Saturday night "Pasta Operas," when the management and visiting singers serenade the clientèle.

Oakland Chinatown ㉕

ba 12th Street or Lake Merritt.

The bay area's second-largest Chinatown should perhaps be called "Asiatown." Its Cantonese majority is augmented by immigrants from Korea, Vietnam, and other parts of Southeast Asia. The neighborhood receives far fewer tourists than San Francisco's Chinatown. Its restaurants have a reputation for hearty, dependable, and reasonably priced food.

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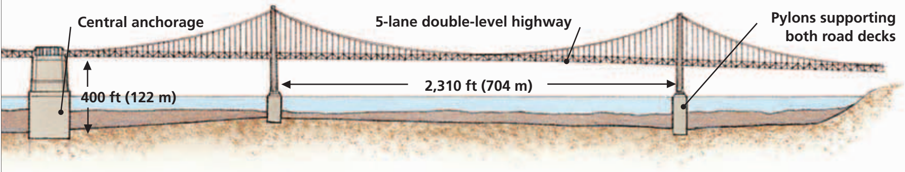
closed for a month after the Loma Prieta earthquake *(see p19)*, when a 50-ft (15-m) segment disconnected where the cantilever span meets the approach ramp from Oakland. There are plans to completely rebuild the East Bay crossing from Yerba Buena Island to Oakland.

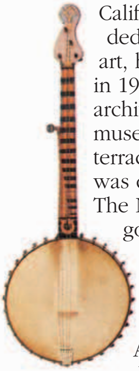
Boring through the island in a tunnel 76 ft (23 m) high and 58 ft (17 m) wide, the roadway emerges at the West Bay section of the bridge. Two suspension spans join at the concrete central anchorage, which is deeper in the water than that of any other bridge.

The World's Fair (1939 to 1940) was held on Treasure Island, part of Yerba Buena Island, to celebrate the bridge's completion *(see p31)*. Now this small island is home to small parks and fine residences.

Plan of the 1939–40 World's Fair on Treasure Island


Central anchorage
5-lane double-level highway
Pylons supporting both road decks
400 ft (122 m)
2,310 ft (704 m)

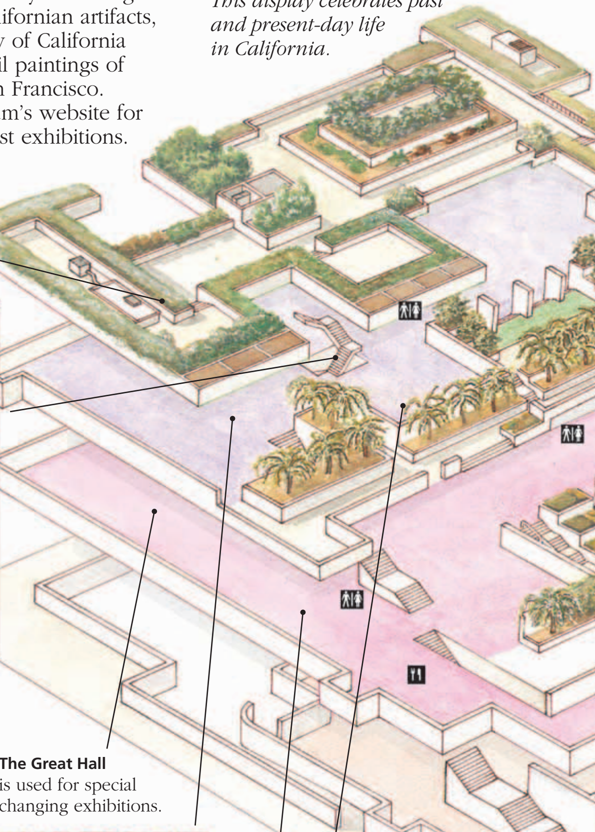
Oakland Museum of California ㉓



California gold miner's banjo

California's only museum exclusively dedicated to documenting the state's art, history, and environment opened in 1969. The building, an important architectural icon for its integration of museum and landscape, is handsomely terraced with courts and gardens and was designed by architect Kevin Roche. The Natural Sciences gallery is undergoing renovation and is scheduled to reopen in 2012. The Gallery of California History has a large collection of Californian artifacts, while the Gallery of California Art boasts early oil paintings of Yosemite and San Francisco. Check the museum's website for details of the latest exhibitions.

Welcome to California
This display celebrates past and present-day life in California.

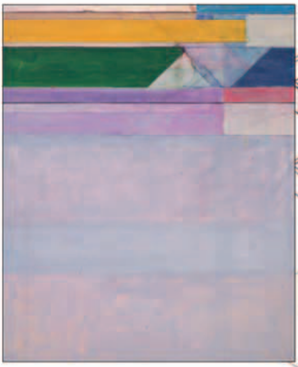


Roof and gardens

The Great Hall is used for special changing exhibitions.

Level 2

Level 3



Gallery of California Art
The modern art in this collection includes the painting Ocean Park No: 107 (1978) by Richard Diebenkorn.

★ Barry McGee Installation
This acrylic assemblage (2010) by San Francisco native Barry McGee reflects his interest in colorful geometric patterns.

KEY TO THE OAKLAND MUSEUM LEVELS

☐ Art Gallery ☐ History ☐ Natural Sciences

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

1000 Oak St, Oakland.
☎ *(510) 238-2200.* 🚌 *Lake Merritt.* ○ *11am–5pm Wed–Sun, (to 9pm Fri).* ● *Mon, Tue, Jan 1, Jul 4, Thanksgiving, Dec 25.* P *free 2nd Sun.* 📷 🛍 ☕ ♿
www.museumca.org

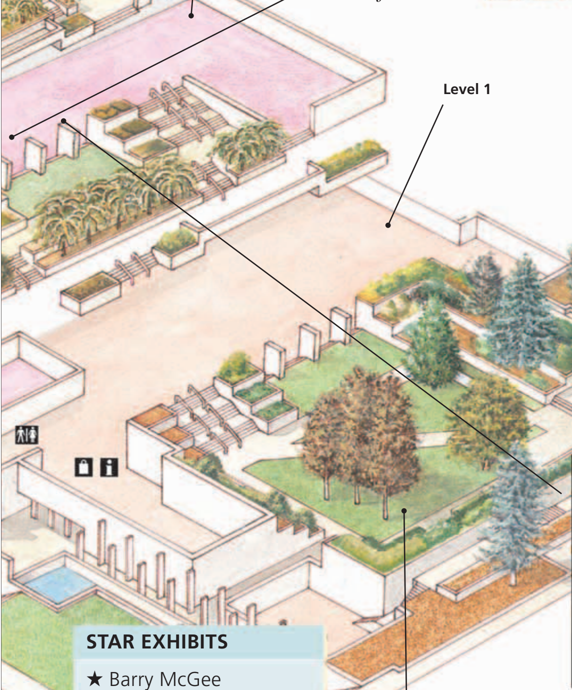
California Mud Wagon
Developed for rural life during the mid-19th century, this multipurpose vehicle could be converted easily from a field wagon to a stylish carriage.

THE RAILROAD BRINGS PEOPLE

Railroad Exhibit
The construction of the railroad was crucial in the development of California, lifting the state out of isolation.

MUSEUM GUIDE

The main entrance to the museum is on Oak Street. Ticketing is on Level 2, where you will also find the Gallery of California History, a café, a store, and the Great Hall, for special exhibitions. The Gallery of California Art is on Level 3.



Level 1

STAR EXHIBITS

- ★ Barry McGee Installation
- ★ Truck from the Great Depression

The Great Court has outdoor festivals and is also a popular spot for a picnic.

★ Truck from the Great Depression
This loaded, dusty truck highlights the hardship faced by so many Americans during the Depression.

Day Trips South of the City

South of San Francisco Bay, Santa Clara County became famous in the late 1960s for its Silicon Valley. It is well worth exploring on day trips. San José has a variety of fascinating museums, while Filoli estate offers a mansion and garden tour. Stanford University and Pescadero are interesting for their fine architecture and history.

The Winchester Mystery House

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Museums

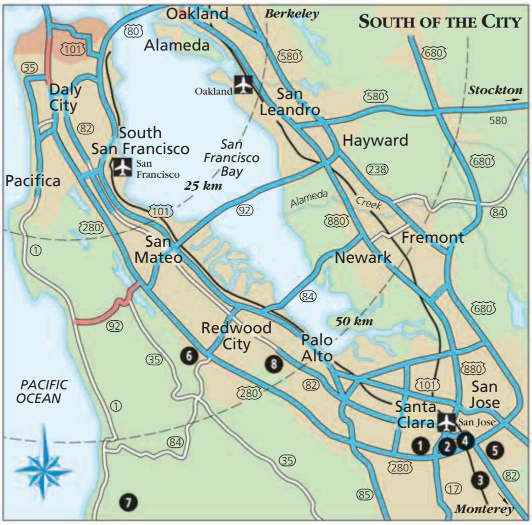
Children's Discovery Museum ❹
History Museum of San José ❺
Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum and Planetarium ❷
Stanford University ❽
Tech Museum of Innovation ❸
The Winchester Mystery House ❶

Historic Places

Filoli ❻
Pescadero ❼

KEY

🟧 Central San Francisco
🟨 Greater San Francisco
✈ Airport
▬ Freeway
▬ Major road
═ Minor road
— Railroad line


SOUTH OF THE CITY
Oakland
Berkeley
Alameda
Daly City
Oakland
San Leandro
Stockton
South San Francisco
San Francisco
San Francisco Bay
25 km
Hayward
Pacifica
Alameda Creek
Fremont
San Mateo
Newark
50 km
Redwood City
Palo Alto
PACIFIC OCEAN
Santa Clara
San Jose
San Jose
Monterey
80
101
35
580
680
580
580
82
238
680
101
92
880
84
280
1
84
680
92
35
280
82
101
880
1
84
35
280
85
17
82
❶
❷
❸
❹
❺
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❽

20 miles = 32 km

The Winchester Mystery House ❶

525 S Winchester Blvd, between Stevens Creek Blvd and I-280, San José. ☎ *(408) 247-2101.* 🚆 *Santa Clara, then Santa Clara Transportation Agency bus 32 or 34 to Franklin St and Monroe St; then bus 60.* ○ *8am–7pm daily.* ● *Dec 25.* ☞ ♿ ☕ 🛍 **www**.winchestermysteryhouse.com

When the heiress of the Winchester Rifle fortune, Sarah Winchester, started to build her house in 1884, a medium told her she would die if she stopped. She kept carpenters working there for 38 years, until she died at age 82. The result is a bizarre complex of 160 rooms filled with unusual treasures, set in beautiful gardens. Its features include stairways that lead nowhere and windows set into the floor. The house has a Firearms Museum with a collection of Winchester rifles.

Forecourt of the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum

Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum and Planetarium ❷

Naglee and Park Aves, San José. ☎ *(408) 947-3635.* 🚆 *Santa Clara, then Santa Clara Transportation Agency bus 32 or 34 to Franklin St, then bus 81.* ○ *9am–5pm Mon–Thu, 9am–9pm Fri, 11am–6pm Sat & Sun.* ● *all major holidays.* ♿ **www**.egyptianmuseum.org

Inspired by the Temple of Amon at Karnak, Egypt, this museum houses ancient Egyptian, Babylonian, Assyrian, and Sumerian artifacts. Funerary boats and models, human and animal mummies, Coptic textiles, pottery, jewelry and a full-size tomb are on display.

The Tech Museum of Innovation ❸

201 South Market St (at Park Ave), San José. ☎ *(408) 294-TECH.* 🚆 *San José, then Light Rail to Convention Center.* ○ *10am–5pm daily (to 8pm Thu–Sun).* ● *Dec 25.* ♿ ☕ 🛍 **www**.thetech.org

The Tech is a colorful technological museum divided into several themed galleries, including life sciences, energy, and communication. Many of the exhibits have a "hands-on" element, such as making your own film, or discovering the latest tricks in animation. There is also an Imax® Dome Theater, which is open for screenings on Friday and Saturday nights.

Children's Discovery Museum ❹

180 Woz Way, San José. **Tel** *(408) 298-5437.* 🚆 *Arena, or to Tamien, then Light Rail to Technology.* ○ *10am–5pm Tue–Sat, noon–5pm Sun (Jun–Aug: also open Mon).* 📷 ♿ **www**.cdm.org

A short walk leads from San José Convention Center to this museum, where children can play in a real red fire engine or in an ambulance with flashing lights. The more adventurous can crawl through a multi-level maze to experience three-dimensional space or step into dedicated environments to explore the phenomenon of rhythm. At the Waterways exhibit, children can discover the special properties of water by creating unique fountains from magnetic half-pipes.

A popular exhibit in the Children's Discovery Museum

History Museum of San José ❺

1650 Senter Rd, San José. **Tel** *(408) 287-2290.* 🚆 *Cahill, then bus 64 to 1st and Santa Clara St, then bus 73 from 2nd St.* ○ *11am–5pm Tue–Sun.* ● *Jan 1, Jul 4, Thanksgiving, Dec 25.* **www**.historysanjose.org

This charming museum in Kelley Park re-creates San José as it was in the early 20th century. More than 21 original houses and businesses have been restored and set around a town square. They include a fire station, an ice cream parlor with working soda fountain, gas station, and a historic trolley that travels around the grounds.

Filoli ❻

Canada Rd, nr Edgewood Rd, Woodside. **Tel** *(650) 364-8300.* *Feb–Nov by appointment.* ○ *10am–3:30pm Tue–Sat, 11am–3:30pm Sun (last admission 2:30pm).* ● *federal hols.* **www**.filoli.org

The lavish 43-room Filoli mansion was built in 1915 for William Bourne II, owner of the Empire Gold Mine. Gold from the mine was used in its decoration. The elegant house is surrounded by a large garden and an estate where guided nature walks can be arranged. "Filoli" is an acronym for "Fight, love, live," which refers to Bourne's love for the Irish and their struggle.

Pescadero ❼

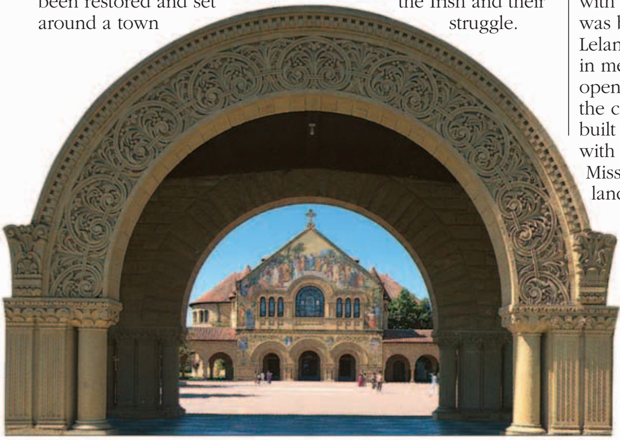
🚌 *Daly City, then SamTrans routes IC or IL to Half Moon Bay, then 96C (weekdays only).*

This quaint village with its many two-story wooden buildings has antique stores, gift shops and one of the southern peninsula's best restaurants, Duarte's Tavern. Families will enjoy Phipps Ranch, a farm with a barnyard and "pick your own" fruit. Pigeon Point Lighthouse lies 8 miles (5 km) to the south.

Stanford University ❽

Palo Alto. **Tel** *(650) 723-2053.* 🚆 *Palo Alto, then Santa Clara Transit bus 35.* *phone (650) 723-2560 for details.* **www**.stanford.edu

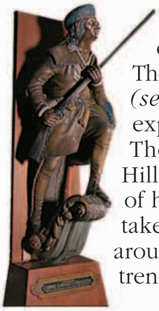
One of the country's most prestigious private universities, with 13,000 students, Stanford was built by railroad mogul Leland Stanford *(see p102)* in memory of his son, and opened in 1891. The heart of the campus is the Main Quad, built in Romanesque style with some characteristics of Mission architecture. Main landmarks are the Memorial Church, the Hoover Tower and the Stanford University Museum of Art, where you can see the Golden Spike that completed the transcontinental railroad in 1869. The Museum of Art owns a collection of Rodins, including the *Gates of Hell* and *Adam and Eve.*



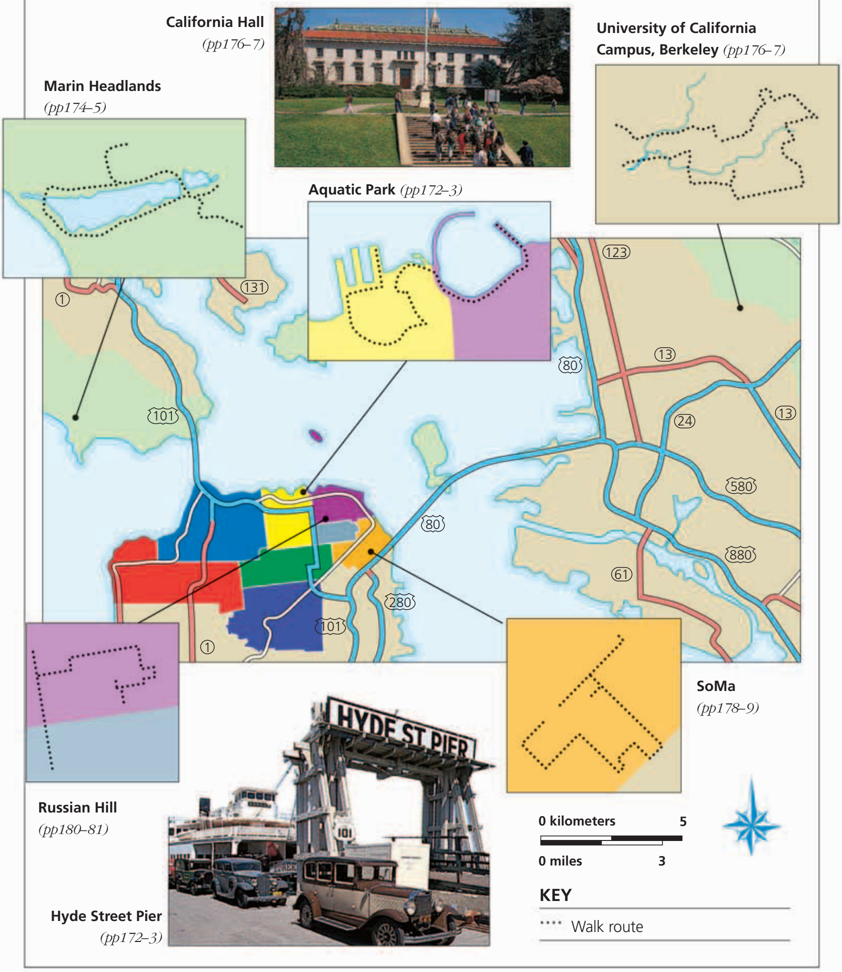
Memorial Church at Stanford University, Palo Alto

FIVE GUIDED WALKS

These five walks take in much of the Bay Area's intriguing cultural and geographical diversity and sweeping views. The Aquatic Park walk along the northern waterfront covers the area from Hyde Street Pier *(see p83)*, with its historic sailing ships and echoes of the past, to Fort Mason Center *(see pp74–5)*, a military relic transformed into a lively community with theaters, museums and arts activities. Only half an hour's drive away, the Marin Headlands walk is into another world, of rolling hills with cliffs that drop dramatically into the sea. The third walk moves to Berkeley *(see p162)* in the East Bay to explore the groves of academe. The city walk through Russian Hill takes you through a warren of hidden parks and gardens, or take in the atmosphere on a walk around the SoMa District, with its trendy galleries, shops, cafés, and glitzy hotels. In addition to these walks, each of the eight areas of San Francisco described in the *Area by Area* section of this book has a walk on its *Street-by-Street* map.



Davy Crockett figure head at the Maritime Museum
(see p83)



California Hall
(pp176–7)

University of California Campus, Berkeley *(pp176–7)*

Marin Headlands
(pp174–5)

Aquatic Park *(pp172–3)*

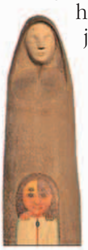
SoMa
(pp178–9)

Russian Hill
(pp180–81)

Hyde Street Pier
(pp172–3)

◁ **View of Point Bonita Lighthouse on the southwestern tip of the Marin Headlands**

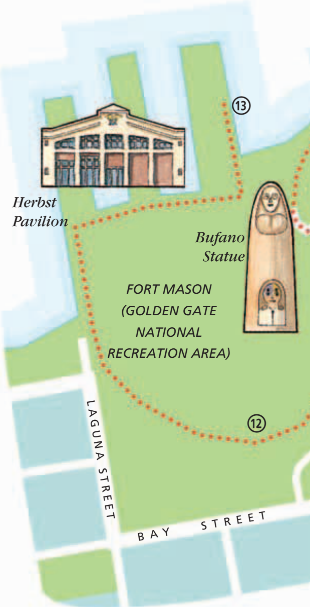
A 90-Minute Walk around Aquatic Park



Statue by Bufano in Fort Mason Center

Side by side on San Francisco's northern waterfront, Aquatic Park and Fort Mason offer some fascinating glimpses into the city's past, especially its colorful history as a seaport. There are no cars here, just walkers, cyclists and skaters sharing lushly overgrown paths. The route winds past historic ships moored in the bay, Depression-era swim clubs, Gold Rush cottages and military installations dating from Spanish colonial times to World War II. You can swim if you don't mind the chilly bay water, fish for crabs, paddle off a small beach or just stop to admire the view and picnic in one of the many grassy spots. For more details see pages 74–5 and 80–83.

Marina Green and Fort Mason



Hyde Street Pier

Begin at the seaward end of Hyde Street Pier ①. Until 1938, when the opening of the Golden Gate Bridge made it obsolete, this pier was the center of activity on the city's northern waterfront. It is now part of the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, used as a mooring for a collection of historic ships *(see p83)*. Among these is a handsome steam-powered ferry boat, the *Eureka* ②, built in 1890. The ship is full of old cars and ephemera from 1941, the last year it was in service. From the landward end of the pier, where there is a bookstore ③ operated by the National Park Service, walk west along the waterfront past the Hyde Street cable car turntable on your left. In flower-filled Victorian Park ④ street musicians perform. There is a pair of whitewashed clapboard buildings ⑤ on the sandy beach to your right, which house the South End and Dolphin swimming and rowing clubs.

Ships moored in Aquatic Park

Aquatic Park

Continue westward to the broad Golden Gate Promenade, popular with joggers, cyclists and skaters. This right-of-way follows the old Belt Line railroad, which once ran along the Embarcadero from the wharves and warehouses of China Basin and Potrero Hill to Fort Mason and the Presidio.

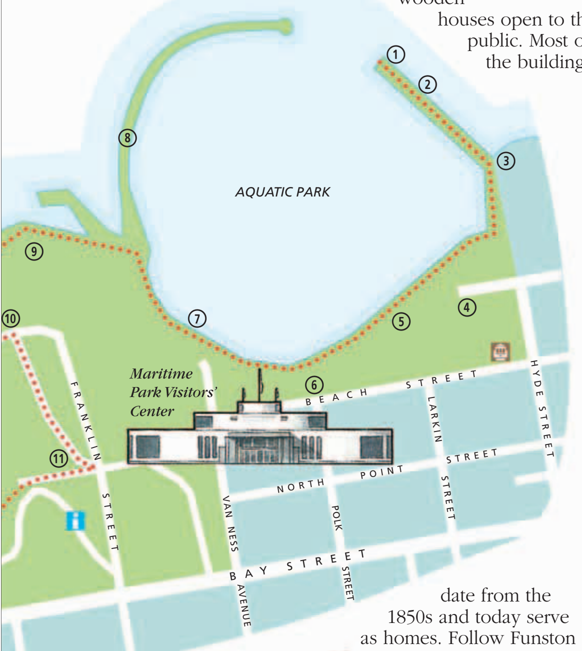
On the left is a large building known as the Casino ⑥, built in 1939 as a public bathing club. Since 1951 it has been the West Coast home of the Maritime National Historical Park Visitors' Center *(see p83)*, which is partially closed for renovation until 2012. Visitors cannot go inside, but they can still admire the unique museum building.

West of the Casino is a topiary sign spelling out "Aquatic Park."

Boat building in progress on Hyde Street Pier ①

Behind this are red-and-white plastic-roofed *bocce* ball courts. The old dock and boathouse ⑦ to your right are used on weekends by sea scouts learning seamanship. Continue along the waterfront to the curving concrete pier ⑧ that marks the western end of Aquatic Park. People fish here at all hours, mostly for crabs. The Mission-style building at the foot of the pier is an emergency pumping station.

The sea scouts' boathouse ⑦



0 meters 250

0 yards 250

KEY

- ••• Walk route
- 🚋 Cable car turntable
- ℹ Information center

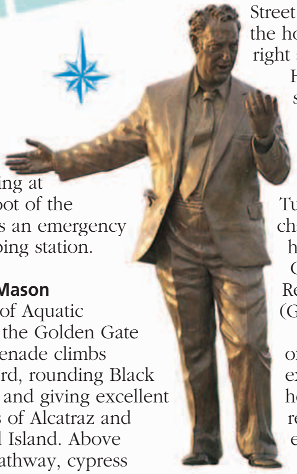
Fort Mason

West of Aquatic Park, the Golden Gate Promenade climbs upward, rounding Black Point and giving excellent views of Alcatraz and Angel Island. Above the pathway, cypress trees cover the headland, and a series of terraces ⑨ holds the remains of artillery emplacements from the late 1800s.

Follow the Golden Gate Promenade to the top of the slope, then turn left and go around to the front of the Youth Hostel ⑩. This is one of the few ornate wooden houses open to the public. Most of the buildings date from the 1850s and today serve as homes. Follow Funston Street along the length of the hostel, and then turn right at Franklin Street.

Here there are several interesting buildings, including the exclusive Fort Mason Officers' Club on the left. Turn right by the chapel to arrive at the headquarters of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) ⑪.

The grassy knolls of Great Meadow ⑫ extend westward from here. This was where refugees from the 1906 earthquake camped until they could be re-housed. A statue of Congressman Phillip Burton, the inspiration behind the formation of the GGNRA, has been erected in the middle of the field. From the Great Meadow, take the narrow steps down the hill to Fort Mason Center *(see pp74–5)*. Continue north toward the piers ⑬ and stop in Building D to visit the Mexican Museum, or view the Outdoor Exploratorium, which illustrates the history of the shoreline in that part of the Bay and the area's natural environment.



Phillip Burton in Great Meadow ⑫

TIPS FOR WALKERS

Starting point: *The seaward end of Hyde Street Pier.*
Length: *1.5 miles (2.5 km).*
Getting there: *The Powell-Hyde cable car's northern terminus and turntable at Beach Street is a short walk from Hyde Street Pier. Muni bus no. 32 goes to Jefferson Street and Hyde Street.*
Stopping-off points: *The Buena Vista Café, opposite the cable car turntable, is always packed with customers who come for the good breakfasts and strong coffee (including a famous Irish Coffee). Greens restaurant (see p229) in Building A at Fort Mason Center, considered to be San Francisco's finest vegetarian restaurant, is run by disciples of Zen Buddhism. You can have a full meal or, if you just want a snack, buy pastries and drinks from the counter.*

A 90-Minute Walk through the Marin Headlands

At its northern end, the Golden Gate Bridge is anchored in the rolling green hills of the Marin Headlands. This is an unspoiled wild area of windswept ridges, sheltered valleys and deserted beaches, once used as a military defense post and now part of the vast Golden Gate National Recreation Area. From several vantage points there are spectacular views of San Francisco and the sea and, on autumn days, you can see migrating eagles and ospreys gliding past Hawk Hill.

Schoolchildren on a trip to the Marin Headlands

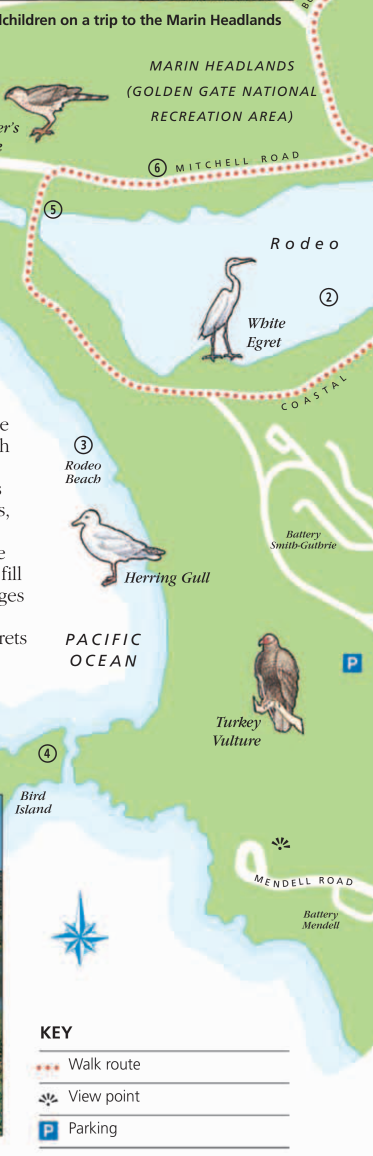
Rodeo Beach ③

Visitor Center to Rodeo Beach

Before starting this walk, pause a while at the steepled Visitor Center ①, which was once the interdenominational chapel for Fort Barry. It has since been refurbished and is now a museum and information center, with a natural history bookstore that specializes in books on birds. Here you can discover the history of the Marin Headlands and see a Coast Miwok Indian shelter.

The walk, which will take you around Rodeo Lagoon ②, begins at the gate on the west, ocean side, of the parking area. Take the path to the left that leads to the sea. This part of the trail is thick with trees and shrubs, including the poison oak, of which visitors should be aware. The songs of birds fill the air, and around the edges of the lagoon you will see brown pelicans, snowy egrets and mallards. A 15-minute walk will bring you to the sandy, windblown Rodeo Beach, ③, and from here you can see Bird Island ④

Rodeo Lagoon ②


BUNKER RD
MARIN HEADLANDS (GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA)
Cooper's Hawk
P
⑥ MITCHELL ROAD
⑤
Rodeo
②
White Egret
COASTAL
③ Rodeo Beach
Herring Gull
Battery Smith-Guthrie
PACIFIC OCEAN
P
Turkey Vulture
④
Bird Island
MENDELL ROAD
Battery Mendell

KEY

●●● Walk route

✺ View point

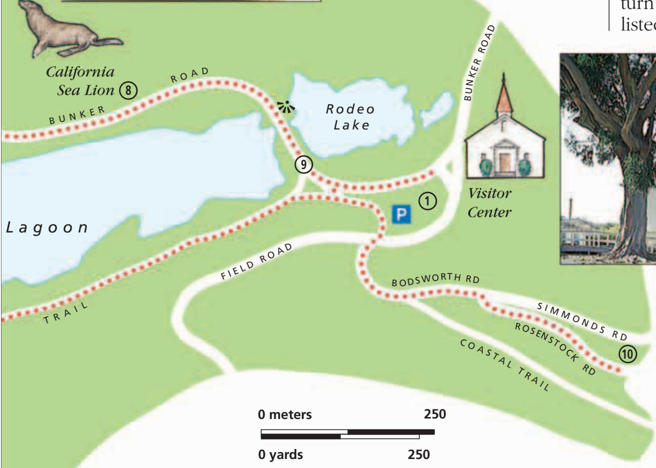
🅿 Parking

lying off-shore to the south. Fishing boats may be seen bobbing out at sea, but the beach is mostly empty of people, although sometimes you might see groups of children studying the coastal ecology: educational programs are run by the Headlands Institute, based in the nearby former army barracks.

Barracks to the California Marine Mammal Center

From the beach, turn inland again as you approach the tip of the lagoon, crossing a wooden footbridge ⑤. Here there are barracks ⑥ housing various offices, among them the Headlands District Office, the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory, and an energy and resources center. Walking past the barracks, continue along the path, then turn left at the road that climbs a hill to the Marine Mammal Center ⑦. This was used as a missile defense site during the Cold War, but is now run by volunteers who rescue and care for sick or injured marine mammals. Sea lions and seals, including elephant seals, are examined and treated here, in specially designed pens, then put back in the sea when they have recovered. You can watch the vets at work and get a close view of the mammals, many of which are orphaned pups. There are also displays on the marine ecosystem.

Seal at the Marine Mammal Center ⑦



Horse Trail
Bike Trail

Sign marking a trail

Lagoon to the Golden Gate Hostel

Make your way back down the hill and return to the paved road that runs past the lagoon ⑧. There is a separate roadside pathway for hikers, but you have to climb over a guard rail to get on to it. Just before the road crosses a bridge, you can stop to watch the water birds. There are plenty of these to be seen in this brackish lagoon with its tall grasses. Stay on the path as you cross the bridge. Before the guard rail ends, a path ⑨ plunges down to the right into the dense shrubbery.

Take this, and then continue up the hill again, via a series of steps that will return you to the path at the end of the Visitor Center parking area. Walk across the lot and cross Field Road going up the hill to a three-story wooden building, constructed at the turn of the century. This is listed on the National Historic Registry and has been officers' headquarters, a hospital and a missile command center. It is now the Golden Gate Hostel ⑩ for travelers.

Visitor Center ①

The Marin Headlands also offer a wide range of longer, more challenging wilderness walks. Wolf Ridge and Bobcat Trail are two popular routes to try.

TIPS FOR WALKERS

Starting point: *The Visitor Center at Fort Barry.*
Length: *2 miles (3 km).*
Getting there: *San Francisco Muni bus 76 leaves from the intersection of Fourth Street and Townsend Street on Sundays and major holidays.* ***Tel*** *(415) 673-6864 (Muni).*
By car, drive across the Golden Gate Bridge, taking the Alexander Avenue exit. Turn under the freeway, following signs for the Headlands and Fort Barry.
Stopping-off points: *Water is available, but there are no refreshment facilities in the Marin Headlands. You will need to bring your own picnic lunch, which can be enjoyed at any number of tables dotted along the trails and on the beaches.*

A 90-Minute Walk around the University of California Campus in Berkeley

This walk concentrates on a distinct area of Berkeley, the campus of the University of California, allowing a stimulating glimpse into the intellectual, cultural and social life of this vibrant university town *(see pp162–3)*.

Students outside Wheeler Hall

West Entrance to Sather Tower

From University Avenue ①, cross Oxford Street and follow University Drive past the Valley Life Sciences Building ②. Wellman Hall can be seen on the north fork of Strawberry Creek as you follow the road to the right, keeping California Hall ③ on your right. Turn left on the Cross Campus Road ④. Wheeler Hall lies to the right and ahead is the main campus landmark, the 307-ft (94-m) tall Sather Tower ⑤, commonly referred to as "The Campanile." Built by John Galen Howard in 1914, it was based on the campanile in the Piazza San Marco in Venice. Before going there, visit the Doe Library ⑥ and the AF Morrison Memorial Library ⑦ in the north wing. The adjacent Bancroft Library houses the plate supposedly left by Sir Francis Drake, claiming California for Queen Elizabeth I *(see p22)*. Return to Sather Tower, which is open 10am–3:30pm Monday to Saturday and offers fine views from the top. Across the way lies South Hall ⑧, the oldest building on campus.

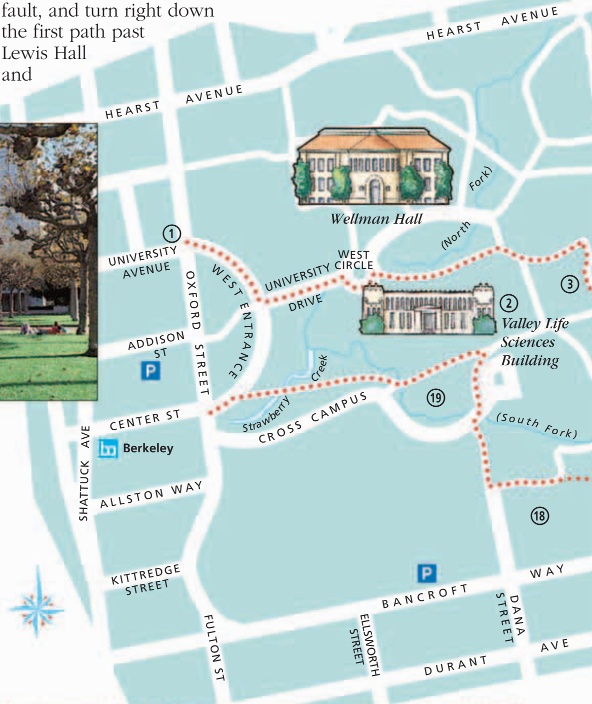
Esplanade near Sather Tower ⑤

Hearst Mining Building to the Greek Theatre

Continuing north, pass LeConte Hall then cross University Drive to the Mining Circle. Here is the Hearst Mining Building ⑨, built by Howard in 1907. Inside are ore samples and pictures of old mining operations. Return to University Drive, turn left and out of the East Gate to the Hearst Greek Theater ⑩.

Faculty Club to the Eucalyptus Grove

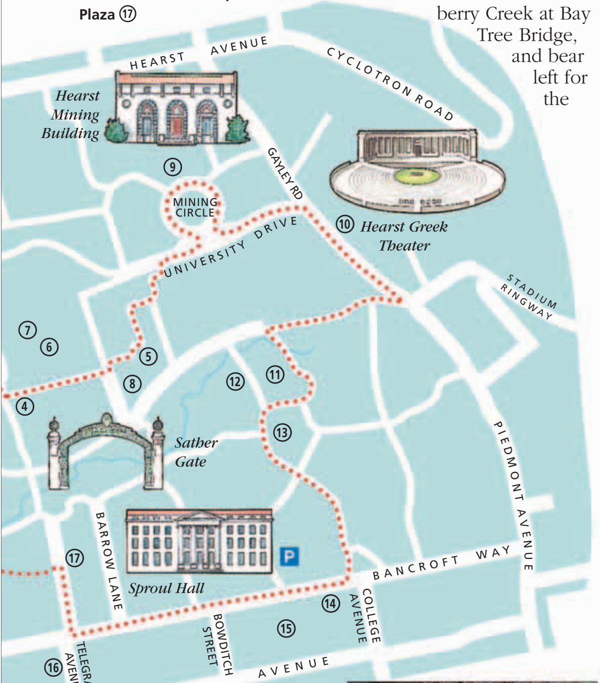
Follow Gayley Road, which straddles a major earthquake fault, and turn right down the first path past Lewis Hall and



HEARST AVENUE
HEARST AVENUE
Wellman Hall
Fork)
(North
①
UNIVERSITY AVENUE
WEST CIRCLE
UNIVERSITY DRIVE
WEST ENTRANCE
OXFORD STREET
②
Valley Life Sciences Building
③
ADDISON ST
P
Creek
Strawberry
CROSS CAMPUS
⑲
(South Fork)
CENTER ST
Berkeley
SHATTUCK AVE
ALLSTON WAY
⑱
KITTREDGE STREET
P
BANCROFT WAY
FULTON ST
ELLSWORTH STREET
DANA STREET
DURANT AVE

Wellman Hall on the University of California Campus

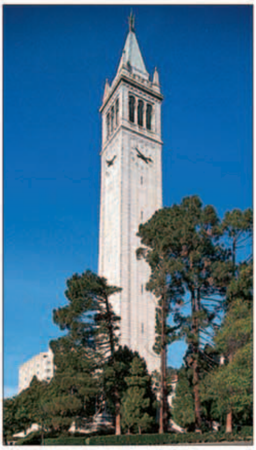
Musicians on lower Sproul Plaza ⑰


HEARST AVENUE
Hearst Mining Building
CYCLOTRON ROAD
⑨
MINING CIRCLE
GAYLEY RD
UNIVERSITY DRIVE
⑩ Hearst Greek Theater
STADIUM RINGWAY
⑦
⑥
⑤
⑧
④
⑫
⑪
⑬
Sather Gate
PIEDMONT AVENUE
BARROW LANE
⑰
Sproul Hall
P
BANCROFT WAY
⑭
COLLEGE AVENUE
⑮
BOWDITCH STREET
⑯
TELEGRAPH AVENUE
DURANT
AVENUE

Hildebrand Hall, then left over a footbridge. The path winds between a log house and the Faculty Club ⑪. This rambling, rustic building, partly designed by Bernard Maybeck, dates from 1903. Faculty Glade ⑫ in front of the club is a favorite picnic spot.

The path now swings to the right, then sharply left. Take a look at Hertz Hall ⑬, then go down the diagonal walk that passes Wurster Hall to Kroeber Hall. Here you can visit the PA Hearst Museum of Anthropology. Cross Bancroft Way to the Caffè Strada ⑭, and then proceed to the wildly modern Berkeley Art Museum ⑮. Continue along Bancroft Way to Telegraph Avenue ⑯, famous for the student activism of the 1960s and ’70s. The entrance to the university opposite Telegraph Avenue opens onto Sproul Plaza ⑰. Step into the lower courtyard with its modern Zellerbach Hall ⑱, then pass Alumni House, noting the state-of-the-art Haas Pavilion, and turn right. Cross over the south fork of Strawberry Creek at Bay Tree Bridge, and bear left for the nature area, with its eucalyptus trees, some of the tallest in the world ⑲. The path ends near the start of the walk.

***Within* (1969) by A. Lieberman at UCB Art Museum ⑮**



Sather Tower ⑤

0 meters 250

0 yards 250

KEY

••• Walk route

BART station

P Parking

TIPS FOR WALKERS

Starting point: *The West Gate at University Ave and Oxford St.*
Length: *2.5 miles (4 km).*
Getting there: *San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge, Highway 80 north, University Avenue exit. By BART, Berkeley stop.*
Stopping-off points: *The Caffè Strada, on Bancroft Way, is always crowded with students. A few steps down the street, in the University Art Museum, is the Café Muse, which looks out on to the sculpture garden. You may want to browse in the bookstores on Telegraph Avenue, or sample food from one of the many carts at the entrance to Sproul Plaza. Here you can find everything from smoothies (blended fruit and ice) to Mexican and Greek food. In the lower Sproul Plaza of the University there are several cafés. Log on to* **www**.*visitberkeley.com for more information.*

A 90-Minute Walk around South of Market

Once a grubby warehouse district, SoMa is a model of urban revitalization. The name SoMa is derived from an old nickname referring to the "wrong side" of the Market Street cable car track when Gold Rush-era immigrants worked in the factories here. Today, a four-block square area surrounding the Moscone Convention Center is chock-a-block with major art and history museums, high-rise hotels, trendy galleries, and shops. On this walk you will encounter vestiges of the city's rip-roaring past among its dazzling 21st-century architecture, as well as trendy cafés and bars.

The SoMa skyline with its mix of old and new architecture

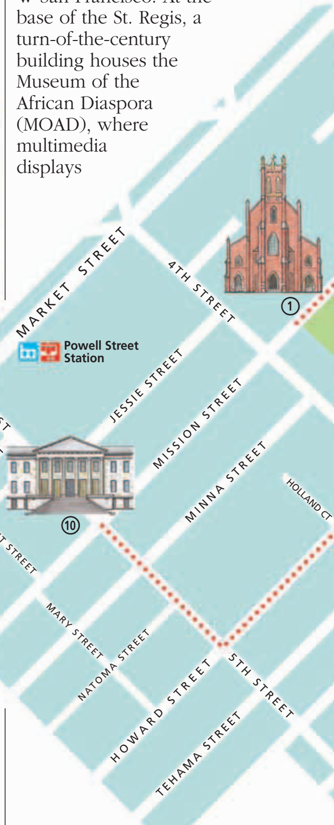
Mission Street

Begin at St. Patrick's Church ①, a soaring brick landmark built in 1851. Notice the green open space of Yerba Buena Gardens across the street, and the variety of vintage and contemporary buildings that characterize this diverse district. Walking in a north-easterly direction will take you past the Contemporary Jewish Museum ② *(see p113)*, housed in a former power substation. The museum's breathtaking interior was designed by the architect Daniel Libeskind. Continue on to the California Historical Society ③ *(see p113)*, where the colorful story of the Golden State is told through art and photography. You might like to return here another time to delve into manuscripts in the library, or to sign up for narrated history walks. Step into the Cartoon Art Museum ④ to see exhibitions of comic book super-heroes, great women cartoonists, or the work of Charles Schultz, the Peanuts creator – it depends on what is on display at the time. Stroll up to Second Street and turn left to find the Alexander Book Company ⑤, an old favorite, that is unassuming on the outside with three floors of treasures inside.

SFMOMA

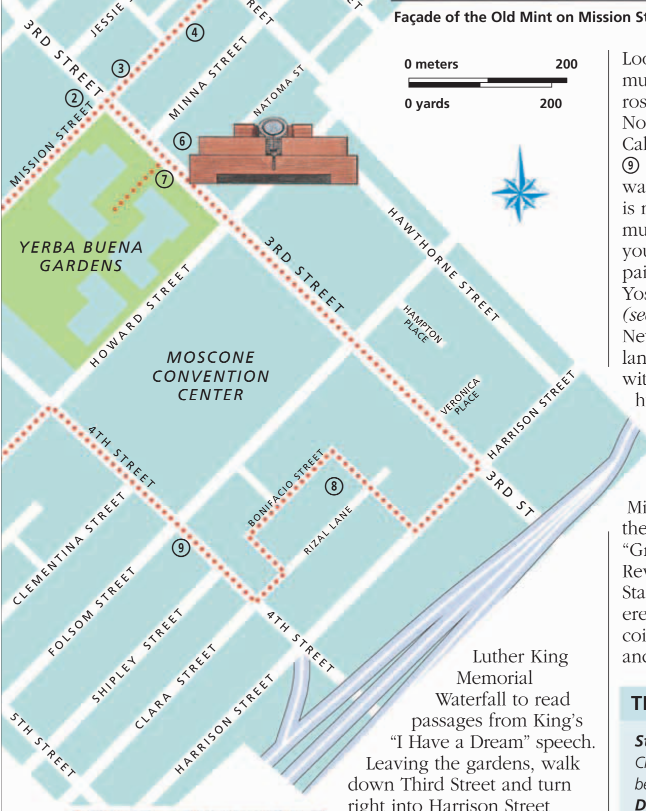
Retrace your steps to Mission Street and walk south two blocks to Third Street. Across from Yerba Buena Gardens, admire the cylinder of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art ⑥ *(see pp118–21)*, one of the architectural wonders of the city. The architect, Mario Botta, described the tilting skylight as "the eye for the city." Browse in the museum store for art books, jewelry and children's games and plan to return for a full tour of the displays of contemporary art. On either side of SFMOMA are skyscraper hotels, the St. Regis Museum Tower, and W San Francisco. At the base of the St. Regis, a turn-of-the-century building houses the Museum of the African Diaspora (MOAD), where multimedia displays present such subjects as celebrations, slavery, art and origins. At the sleek W Hotel, take a look into the "Living Room," the octagonal, three-story lobby that's walled with glass and flowing drapes. Here, you can rest with a drink or a coffee.

SF Museum of Modern Art ⑥, a stunning work of architecture



Yerba Buena Gardens to the Old United States Mint

Cross Third Street to enter Yerba Buena Gardens ⑦ *(see p114–15)*. Take a stroll beneath the sycamores and around the flower gardens, and walk behind the Martin


MARKET STREET
Montgomery St Station
STEVENSON STREET
ANTHONY STREET
MISSION STREET
NEW MONTGOMERY STREET
ANNE STREET
JESSIE STREET
2ND STREET
MINNA STREET
3RD STREET
MINNA STREET
NATOMA ST
MISSION STREET
YERBA BUENA GARDENS
HOWARD STREET
MOSCONE CONVENTION CENTER
3RD STREET
HAWTHORNE STREET
HAMPTON PLACE
VERONICA PLACE
HARRISON STREET
3RD ST
4TH STREET
BONIFACIO STREET
RIZAL LANE
CLEMENTINA STREET
FOLSOM STREET
SHIPLEY STREET
CLARA STREET
HARRISON STREET
4TH STREET
5TH STREET
②
③
④
⑤
⑥
⑦
⑧
⑨
0 meters
200
0 yards
200

Façade of the Old Mint on Mission Street ⑩

Luther King Memorial Waterfall to read passages from King's "I Have a Dream" speech. Leaving the gardens, walk down Third Street and turn right into Harrison Street and right again toward the intersection with Bonifacio Street, where the Alice Street Community Gardens ⑧ make for another fascinating urban experience. The proud senior and disabled people from the neighborhood who keep the patch in bloom will be glad to show you around.

Look for the nine-story-tall mural rising above a riot of roses, lettuce, and daisies. Now head for the Society of California Pioneers Museum ⑨ on Fourth Street, which was founded in 1850 and is now home to both a museum and library. Here you will find many fine paintings of 19th-century Yosemite National Park *(see pp200–203)*, the Sierra Nevada and other early landscapes, featured along with Gold Rush artifacts and hundreds of daguerreotypes and photos. Turn left on Howard Street, then take a right on Fifth Street. On the corner of Mission Street, you will see the magnificent façade of the "Granite Lady," the Greek Revival-style Old United States Mint ⑩ *(see p117)*, erected in 1869–74 to make coins from California gold and Nevada silver.

Yerba Buena Gardens ⑦, an elegant and restful space

KEY

- ••••• Walk route
- BART station
- Streetcar route

TIPS FOR WALKERS

Starting point: *St Patrick's Church on Mission Street between 3rd and 4th.*
Distance: *0.5 mile (0.8 km).*
Getting there: *On BART, and on MUNI Metro lines F, J, K, L, M, N and T exit at Powell Street Station.*
Stopping-off points: *Food and drink tends to be less expensive here than around Union Square and on the waterfront, but in the glitzy hotels (W, the St. Regis and the Marriott) expect to pay $5 for a cup of coffee. Have a light lunch at SFMOMA's sidewalk Café Museo or a picnic in Yerba Buena Gardens. Alternatively, head over to the Sony Metreon (see p263), which has a wide range of eateries and cafés.*

A 90-Minute Walk around Russian Hill

A hilltop warren of parks and rare pre-earthquake architecture are the rewards for this scramble up the steep stairways and leafy alleyways of Russian Hill. Here, you will encounter few cars and fewer people as you wander among carefully preserved buildings from the city's lively and notorious past, and enjoy the dazzling views, the birdsong and the luxuriant hillside gardens that are the pride of the neighborhood. At the end of your walk, descend to indulge in the European-style cafés and boutiques at the foot of the hill.

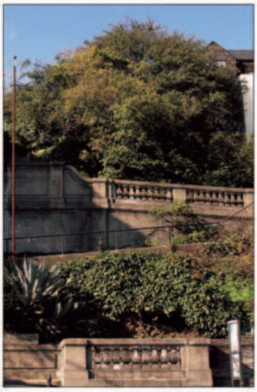
Russian Hill, fabulous views and pre-quake houses

Russian Hill Place

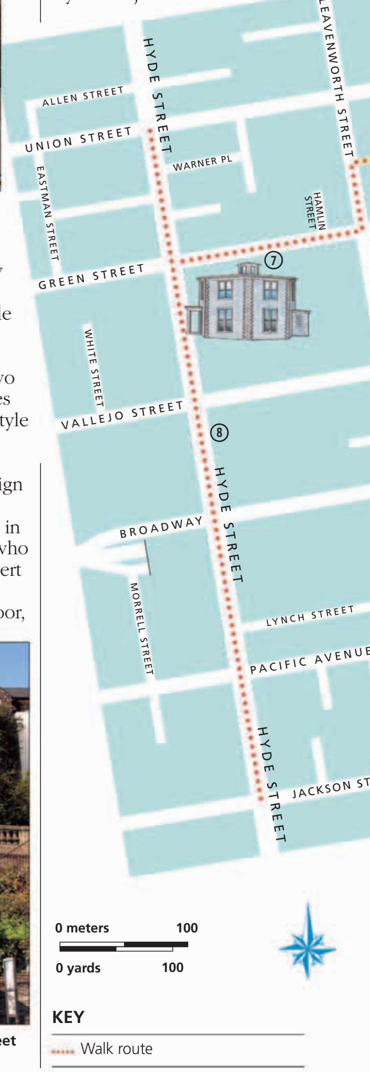
Start the walk from the corner of Jones and Vallejo Streets on the whimsical, Beaux-Arts balustrade ①, designed in 1915 by Willis Polk, one of the architects of the post-1906 earthquake reconstruction *(see pp28–9)*. Before climbing the stone stairway, notice the Spanish-tile-roofed, Mission Revival-style houses, with their fanciful balconies and arched windows on either side. Then take the stairs and walk into the short alleyway of Russian Hill Place ② to see the backs of those homes and their gardens. No. 6 is a turn-of-the-century Bay Area Tradition-style house. Vallejo Street has a variety of homes and apartments built between 1888 and the 1940s.

Florence Street to Coolbrith Park

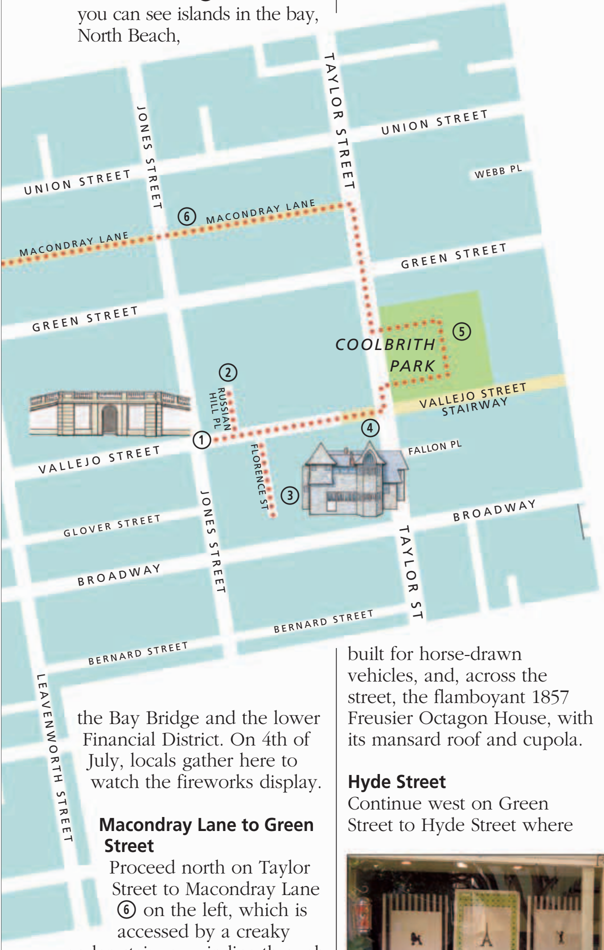
Turn right into short Florence Street ③ and, at the end, look across the rooftops to Nob Hill. Once called Snob Hill, it is sprinkled with 19th-century mansions and grand hotels – look for the towers of Grace Cathedral *(see p103)*. No. 40, one of the oldest houses on the hill, built in 1850, is hidden within additions from later decades. Peek through the fence to see an 8-ft-tall rabbit, and a contemporary mobile sculpture. Note the Pueblo-Mission Revival-style homes along this street. Back on Vallejo Street, the gems of Russian Hill are two steep-roofed, gabled houses in the Bay Area Tradition-style at Nos. 1013–19 ④. Here, leading a move away from the gingerbread-house design of the Victorian era, Polk designed a home (at 1019) in 1892 for a wealthy client (who hosted, among others, Robert Louis Stevenson and Laura Ingalls Wilder) and next door, his own house (at 1013), which is a shingle-sided, six-story arrangement reminiscent of the English Arts and Crafts movement. After the quake, Polk was appointed supervising architect of the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition, a world fair that celebrated the building of the Panama Canal and the rebuilding of San Francisco *(see p72)*. Below his house, he created the zigzagging, Beaux Arts-style Vallejo



Part of the rambling Vallejo Street steps ④ or "the ramps"



Street steps, known as "the ramps." All along the extensive, three-part stairway are gardens overflowing with blue hydrangeas, azaleas, palms, magnolias, and over-arching pines and cypress trees. There is also a bench where tired walkers can rest. At the bottom of the steps at Taylor and Vallejo, stroll across the street to enjoy the sun at tiny Coolbrith Park ⑤. From here you can see islands in the bay, North Beach, the Bay Bridge and the lower Financial District. On 4th of July, locals gather here to watch the fireworks display.


UNION STREET
JONES STREET
TAYLOR STREET
UNION STREET
WEBB PL
⑥
MACONDRAY LANE
MACONDRAY LANE
GREEN STREET
GREEN STREET
COOLBRITH PARK
⑤
②
RUSSIAN HILL PL
①
VALLEJO STREET STAIRWAY
④
VALLEJO STREET
FLORENCE ST
③
FALLON PL
GLOVER STREET
BROADWAY
JONES STREET
TAYLOR ST
BROADWAY
BERNARD STREET
BERNARD STREET
LEAVENWORTH STREET

Macondray Lane to Green Street

Proceed north on Taylor Street to Macondray Lane ⑥ on the left, which is accessed by a creaky wooden stairway winding through dense vegetation. Along the two-block walkway are shingled "Edwardian" cottages, ballast stones from sailing ships, and rustic country houses set in flower gardens. The lane was the location for Barbary Lane in the "Tales of the City" television series. At Nos. 5–17, extravagant plaster garlands drape over the doorways of this rare earthquake survivor. Turn left on Leavenworth Street, then right onto Green Street. The block between Hyde and Leavenworth Streets is also called "the Paris Block" ⑦, a reference to the house at No. 1050, which is reminiscent of those in Paris. A number of buildings on the block are on the National Register of Historic Places, including the last firehouse built for horse-drawn vehicles, and, across the street, the flamboyant 1857 Freusier Octagon House, with its mansard roof and cupola.

Hyde Street

Continue west on Green Street to Hyde Street where cafés and shops cluster between Jackson and Union Streets ⑧. Lovers of all things French will like the Hyde Street Bistro (at No. 1521), the boutiques, and charming antiques shops. After browsing here, catch a bus directly from Hyde Street to various points across the city.

A local relaxing in Macondray Lane, scene of TV's "Tales of the City" ⑥

TIPS FOR WALKERS

Starting point: *The stone stairway at Jones and Vallejo Streets.*
Distance: *0.75 miles (1.2 km).*
Getting there: *Take the Hyde-Powell cable car or the 45 MUNI line to Vallejo Street and walk east two blocks.*
Stopping-off points: *On Hyde Street, Frascati (at 1901) caters to neighborhood regulars with a pan-European menu of* paella, *and* coq au vin *in a cozy setting. The young and the hip hang out on leather love seats in the window of Bacchus Wine & Sake Bar (at 1954).*

Hyde Street, with its French-style boutiques, cafés, and antique shops

Tunnel View, Yosemite Valley ▷

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

EXPLORING NORTHERN CALIFORNIA 184–185

A TWO-DAY TOUR TO CARMEL 186–187

A TWO-DAY TOUR TO MENDOCINO 188–189

THE NAPA WINE COUNTRY 190–193

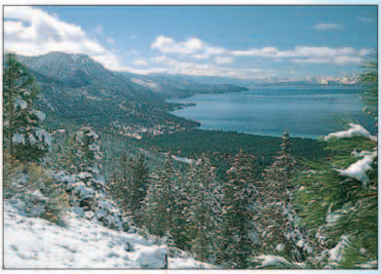
REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK, LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK, SONOMA VALLEY, SACRAMENTO 194–195

LAKE TAHOE 196–199

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK 200–203

Exploring Northern California

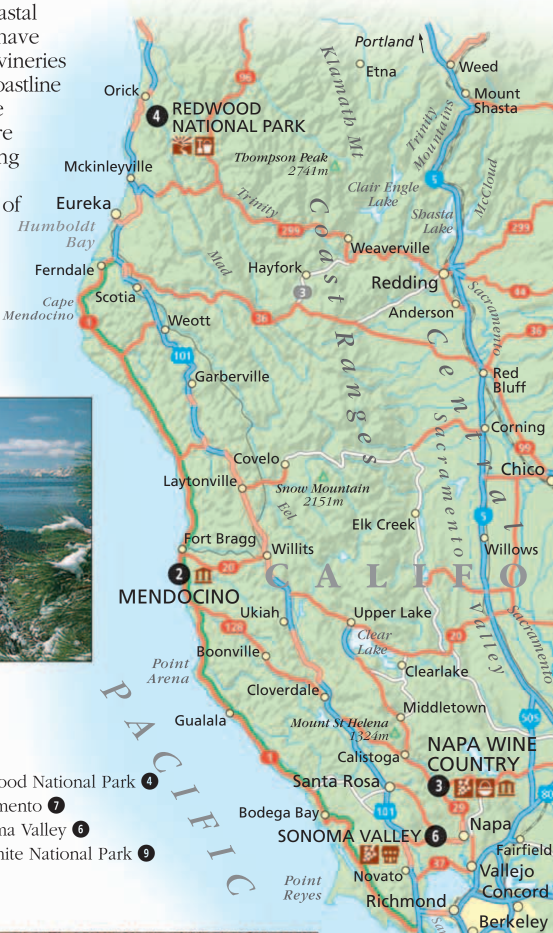
San Francisco sits at the apex of a beautiful, varied and historical region of California. The sheltered valleys of the coastal ranges, perfect for vineyards, have given the state a rich array of wineries to explore, and the extensive coastline is ideal for relaxing on pristine beaches or birdwatching. There are scores of old and fascinating towns, and visitors can ski or hike among the lofty summits of the Sierra Nevada, all within a few hours of the city. The excursions described on pages 186–203 have been selected to give visitors a sample of what beyond San Francisco has to offer.



View north over Lake Tahoe in winter

SIGHTS AT A GLANCE

Carmel ❶
Lake Tahoe ❽
Lassen Volcanic National Park ❺
Mendocino ❷
The Napa Wine Country ❸
Redwood National Park ❹
Sacramento ❼
Sonoma Valley ❻
Yosemite National Park ❾


Portland
Etna
Weed
Mount Shasta
Orick
❹ REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK
Klamath Mt
Trinity Mountains
Thompson Peak 2741m
Mckinleyville
Eureka
Humboldt Bay
Clair Engle Lake
Trinity
Shasta Lake
McCloud
Weaverville
Mad
Hayfork
Redding
Ferndale
Cape Mendocino
Scotia
Anderson
Sacramento
Weott
Coast Ranges
Red Bluff
Garberville
Central Valley
Corning
Sacramento
Chico
Covelo
Laytonville
Snow Mountain 2151m
Eel
Elk Creek
Willows
Fort Bragg
Willits
❷ MENDOCINO
CALIFO
Ukiah
Upper Lake
Clear Lake
Sacramento
Boonville
Point Arena
Clearlake
Cloverdale
PACIFIC
Gualala
Middletown
Mount St Helena 1324m
NAPA WINE COUNTRY ❸
Calistoga
Santa Rosa
Bodega Bay
Napa
SONOMA VALLEY ❻
Fairfield
Novato
Vallejo
Point Reyes
Concord
Richmond
Berkeley
San Francisco Bay
San Francisco
Oakland
San Mateo
Fremont
Palo Alto
Pescadero
San Jose
OCEAN
Santa Cruz
Monterey Bay
Pacific Grove
CARMEL ❶
Point Sur
96
299
5
299
44
36
3
36
101
1
99
5
20
128
20
505
1
29
101
37
80
280
9

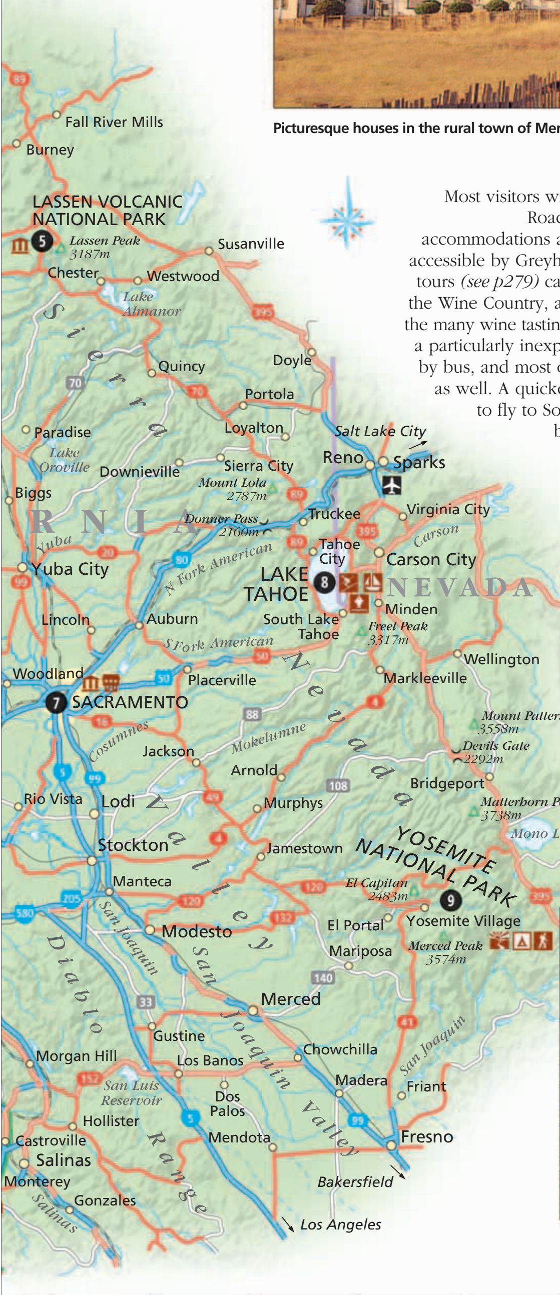
Oak trees in Yosemite Valley in the fall

For additional map symbols *see back flap*

Picturesque houses in the rural town of Mendocino

0 kilometers 50

0 miles 50


Fall River Mills
Burney
LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK
5
Lassen Peak 3187m
Susanville
Chester
Westwood
Lake Almanor
Sierra
Quincy
Doyle
Portola
Paradise
Loyalton
Salt Lake City
Lake Oroville
Downieville
Sierra City
Reno
Sparks
Mount Lola 2787m
Biggs
RNIA
Donner Pass 2160m
Truckee
Virginia City
Yuba
Tahoe City
Carson
Carson City
Yuba City
N Fork American
LAKE TAHOE
8
NEVADA
Minden
Lincoln
Auburn
South Lake Tahoe
Freel Peak 3317m
S Fork American
Wellington
Woodland
Nevada
Markleeville
Placerville
7
SACRAMENTO
Mount Patterson 3558m
Cosumnes
Mokelumne
Jackson
Devils Gate 2292m
Arnold
Bridgeport
Rio Vista
Lodi
Murphys
Matterhorn Peak 3738m
Valley
Mono Lake
Stockton
Jamestown
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
Manteca
El Capitan 2483m
9
San Joaquin
Modesto
El Portal
Yosemite Village
Diablo
San
Mariposa
Merced Peak 3574m
Merced
Joaquin
Gustine
San Joaquin
Chowchilla
Morgan Hill
Los Banos
Madera
San Luis Reservoir
Dos Palos
Friant
Hollister
Valley
Castroville
Range
Mendota
Fresno
Salinas
Monterey
Bakersfield
Gonzales
Salinas
Los Angeles
89
395
70
80
20
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16
88
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108
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132
140
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41
152

GETTING AROUND

Most visitors will want to explore the region by car. Roads are good, and service stations and accommodations are plentiful. All destinations are also accessible by Greyhound bus *(see p290)*. Organized bus tours *(see p279)* can be arranged from San Francisco to the Wine Country, allowing visitors to take advantage of the many wine tasting opportunities. Gambler Specials are a particularly inexpensive way of getting to Lake Tahoe by bus, and most offer special package deals on hotels as well. A quicker, but more expensive, alternative is to fly to South Lake Tahoe. Yosemite is accessible by train from Oakland to Merced, with bus connections included.

KEY

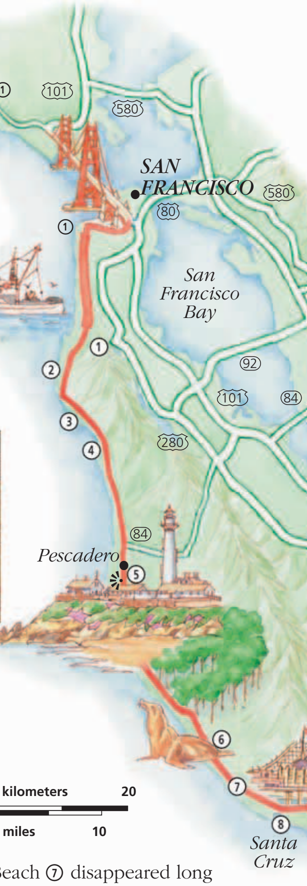
- ▬ Highway
- ▬ Major road
- ▬ Secondary road
- ▬ Other road
- ▬ Scenic route
- ▬ Main railroad
- ▬ Other railroad
- ▬ State border
- △ Summit
-)(Pass

Mustard flowers growing in a Napa Valley vineyard

A Two-Day Tour to Carmel ❶

Santa Cruz roller coaster

Skirting cliffs and coves, pocket beaches, lighthouses, parks and old historic towns, coastal Hwy 1 is a highly scenic route from San Francisco to Carmel. The region has a colorful history, particularly in old Monterey, the original capital of Spanish California. Carmel itself, a pretty seaside town, has been a haven for artists and writers since the early 20th century. Here you can visit the Carmel Mission, burial place of Father Junipero Serra *(see p137)*.



San Francisco to Santa Cruz

Leaving the city at Pacifica, Hwy 1 narrows to a two-lane road. At Sharp Park, you can hike to Sweeny Ridge ①, a distance of 1.5 miles (2 km). From here, in 1769, Gaspar de Portolá's party of Spanish explorers became the first Europeans to see the Bay of San Francisco *(see pp24–5)*.

The strong currents and cold waters of the Pacific discourage most swimmers at the state-owned beaches at Gray Whale Cove ② and Montara. At low tide, the exposed rock pools reach from Fitzgerald Marine Preserve south to Pillar Point, the most extensive along the San Mateo County coast.

The fishing fleet still docks at nearby Princeton ③, while the big event of the year at Half Moon Bay ④ is the Pumpkin Festival in October. Princeton's main street retains the flavor of an old coastal town, and many Portuguese and Italian immigrants have settled here. To the south, the countryside quickly becomes much less populated. At Pigeon Point ⑤, just south of Pescadero *(see p169)*, is a lighthouse built in 1872, which is closed for renovation, though the grounds remain open. From here, side roads climb into the Santa Cruz Mountains. The spectacular Ano Nuevo State Park ⑥ lies 20 miles (32 km) north of Santa Cruz, along Hwy 1. You can make a reservation with a ranger to hike a 3-mile (5-km) round-trip to the beach to see the colony of elephant seals.

Child at the Pumpkin Festival in Half Moon Bay ④

Santa Cruz to Monterey

At Monterey Bay's northern end, Santa Cruz offers some excellent swimming beaches. Though the sandstone bridge of the Natural Bridges State Beach ⑦ disappeared long ago into the waves, the beach here is protected and provides a safe harbor for swimmers.

Santa Cruz is famous for the Boardwalk ⑧, an amusement park that stretches for 0.5 mile (1 km) along the beach. The Big Dipper roller coaster has thrilled riders since 1923.

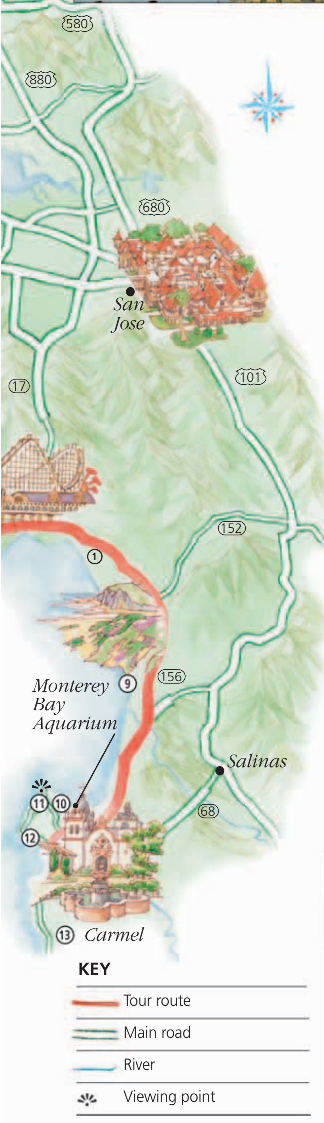
From Santa Cruz the highway curves around the bay to Monterey, 28 miles (45 km) away. Midway between them is the University of California's marine science station at Moss Landing ⑨, where visitors can watch birds and learn about the area's flora and fauna.

Monterey to Pacific Grove

The first capital of California, Monterey ⑩ was established by the Spanish in 1770. Many Spanish, Mexican and early

View of Pigeon Point lighthouse ⑤

Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey ⑩



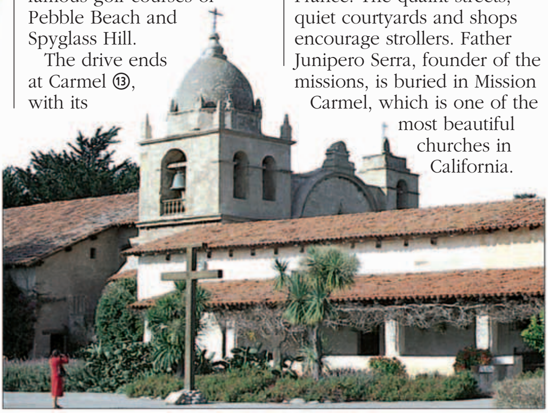
American buildings still stand in the central part of the city. A free walking map, produced by the Chamber of Commerce, is readily available. This map indicates sights such as Robert Louis Stevenson's home and Colton Hall, where California's first constitution was written.

In the 1940s John Steinbeck, author of *Cannery Row* and *Tortilla Flat*, wrote about Monterey, describing it as a collection of sardine canneries and whorehouses. The spectacular Monterey Bay aquarium stands on the 3.3-acre site of the largest of the old canneries. The galleries and exhibits at the Aquarium utilize the unique marine habitats of the Bay itself. On the edge of the Monterey Peninsula is Pacific Grove ⑪, where in the autumn thousands of butterflies cluster in the trees. The 17-Mile Drive ⑫ starts here, following a scenic route past the world-famous golf courses of Pebble Beach and Spyglass Hill.

The drive ends at Carmel ⑬, with its quaint streets and eccentric houses. This hillside town was founded as an artists' colony in the early 20th century, and there are several art galleries where visitors can browse. Many of the houses were designed by artists, inspired perhaps by romanticized impressions of old France. The quaint streets, quiet courtyards and shops encourage strollers. Father Junipero Serra, founder of the missions, is buried in Mission Carmel, which is one of the most beautiful churches in California.

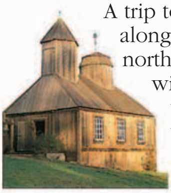
TIPS FOR TRAVELERS

Distance from San Francisco: *137 miles (220 km).*
Duration of journey: *About four hours, excluding stops.*
Getting back to San Francisco: *Monterey Peninsula is linked to US 101. It takes 2.5 hours to reach San Francisco via San José.*
When to go: *The peak tourist season is summer, when the sea air is fresh. Winter is often wet, sometimes with torrential rain.*
Where to stay and eat: *Santa Cruz, Monterey, Carmel, Pacific Grove, and Pebble Beach have a wide selection of hotels, motels and B&Bs. Municipal Wharf in Santa Cruz has numerous snack bars for a light meal en route. Restaurants abound in Monterey on Cannery Row and Fisherman's Wharf. Carmel has a variety of eateries, from French bistros to seafood restaurants.*
Visitor information: *Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, 30 Ragsdale Drive, Suite 200, Monterey.* ***Tel*** *(831) 648-5360.* **www**.mpcc.com *Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 401 El Camino El Estero, Monterey.* ***Tel*** *(888) 221-1010.* **www**.seemonterey.com



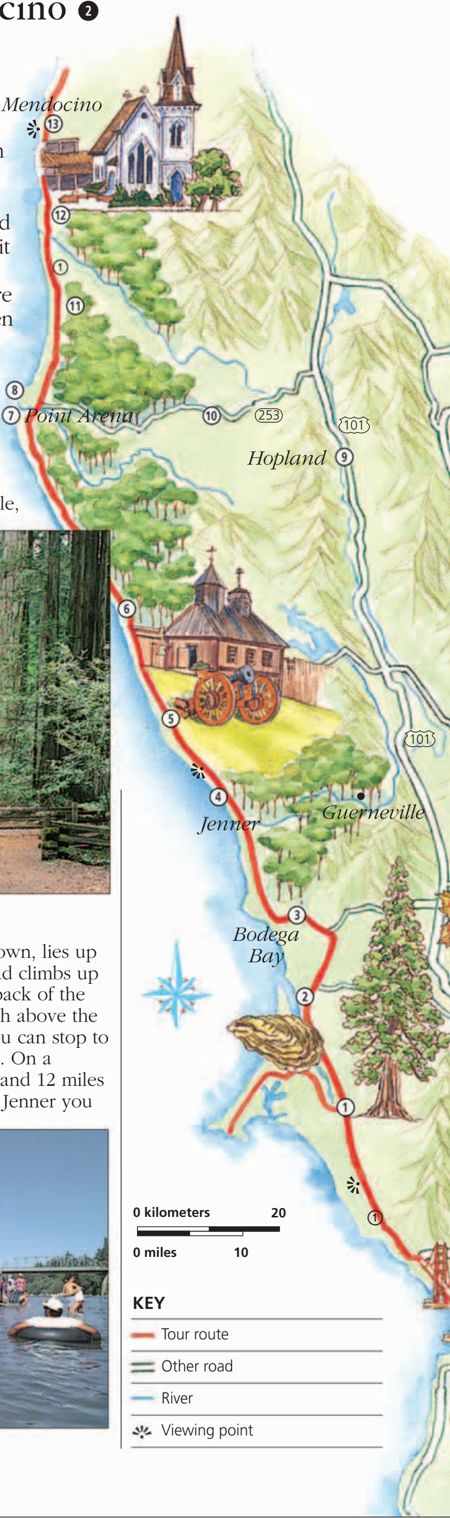
The Mission at Carmel, dating from 1793 ⑬

A Two-Day Tour to Mendocino ❷



Russian Orthodox chapel in Fort Ross

A trip to Mendocino will take you along the rugged coastline of northern California, through wild and unspoiled country, to a small picturesque town that was once a logging village. It became a haven for artists in the 1950s, and was so well restored that it was declared an historic monument. Inland there are valleys with forests of redwood trees, best seen from the "Skunk Train" out of Fort Bragg, 10 miles (16 km) north of Mendocino.



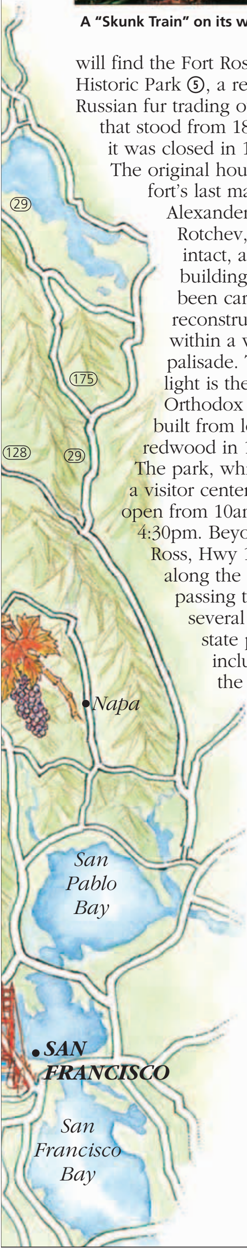
Western Marin to Bodega Bay
Start the trip north by crossing Golden Gate Bridge and then continue on US 101 through southern Marin County *(see pp160–61)*. At Mill Valley take a turn west on to Hwy 1, which climbs up the 1,500-ft-high (450-m) coastal hills then hugs the coast through Stinson Beach. At the town of Point Reyes Station ①, you can detour left and follow the road leading to Point Reyes National Seashore *(see p160)*, which takes about two hours. Hwy 1 continues along the edge of Tomales Bay ②, one of California's prime oyster growing estuaries. Beyond the bay the road winds inland for 30 miles (48 km) through the dairy farms of west Marin County, returning to the coast at Bodega Bay ③, where Alfred Hitchcock filmed *The Birds* in 1962.

Russian River and Fort Ross
North of Bodega Bay, Hwy 1 continues along the Pacific coastline, reaching the wide mouth of the Russian River at Jenner ④, where there is a broad beach. Guerneville, the area's main town, lies up the river. The road climbs up the steep switchback of the Jenner Grade high above the Pacific, where you can stop to admire the views. On a windswept headland 12 miles (19 km) north of Jenner you

Coastal redwoods

Johnson's Beach at Guerneville, on the Russian River

A “Skunk Train” on its way through the redwood forest



will find the Fort Ross State Historic Park ⑤, a restored Russian fur trading outpost that stood from 1812 until it was closed in 1841. The original house of the fort’s last manager, Alexander Rotchev, is still intact, and other buildings have been carefully reconstructed within a wooden palisade. The highlight is the Russian Orthodox chapel, built from local redwood in 1824. The park, which has a visitor center, is open from 10am to 4:30pm. Beyond Fort Ross, Hwy 1 snakes along the coast, passing through several coastal state parks, including the Kruse Rhododendron Reserve ⑥. The best time to visit is during April and May, when the flowers are in bloom. This stretch of coast is ruggedly beautiful, with windswept headlands and hidden coves.

Point Arena and Manchester State Beach

The drive continues through open meadows and cypress groves to Point Arena ⑦. Here visitors can climb up the 147 steps in the old lighthouse for a spectacular view of the coast.

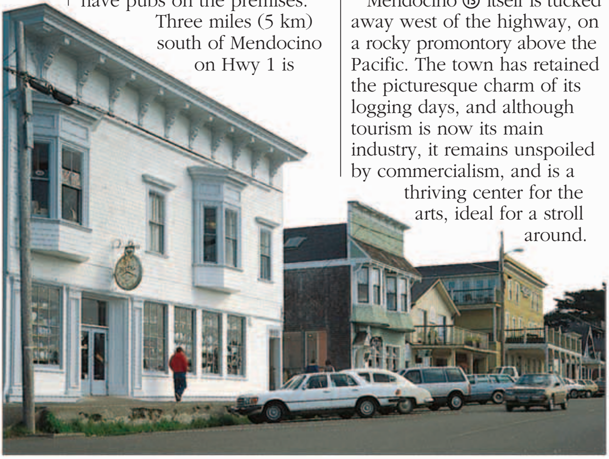
Manchester State Beach ⑧ hugs the coastline for the next 5 miles (8 km), and from here you can take a detour of about three hours to visit northern California’s breweries. Among the best brews are Red Tail Ale from Mendocino Brewing in Hopland ⑨ on US 101, and Boont Amber, made in Boonville ⑩ in the heart of the Anderson Valley. Both have pubs on the premises.

TIPS FOR TRAVELERS

Distance from San Francisco: *Distance depends on the route, but Mendocino is about 125 miles (200 km) from San Francisco.*
Duration of journey: *Allow 10 to 12 hours for the one-way journey, following the tour as described. This takes in all detours but excludes stops.*
Getting back to San Francisco: *Take Hwy 1 south to Navarro River, then Hwy 128 to Cloverdale. From here, follow US 101 south.*
When to go: *Summer is the peak tourist season, but fall has the best weather, with sunny days and lovely sunsets. Winter is wet and mild, and gray whales are often seen offshore. In spring the hills are ablaze with wildflowers.*
Where to stay and eat: *A range of accommodations, including campsites, and services are available along the route. Fort Bragg, Little River, Manchester, Jenner, Hopland and Boonville make good stopovers on your journey, and Mendocino has lovely bed-and-breakfast establishments.*
Visitor information: *Mendocino Coast Chamber of Commerce is at 217 South Main Street, Fort Bragg.* ***Tel*** *(707) 961-6300.*
www.mendocinocoast.com

Three miles (5 km) south of Mendocino on Hwy 1 is Van Damme State Park ⑪, a redwood forest with several good hiking trails. Mendocino Headlands State Park ⑫ is a bit farther along the highway – a greenbelt area where no development is allowed.

Mendocino ⑬ itself is tucked away west of the highway, on a rocky promontory above the Pacific. The town has retained the picturesque charm of its logging days, and although tourism is now its main industry, it remains unspoiled by commercialism, and is a thriving center for the arts, ideal for a stroll around.

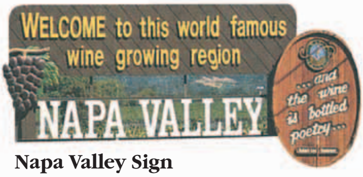


19th-century buildings in Mendocino ⑬

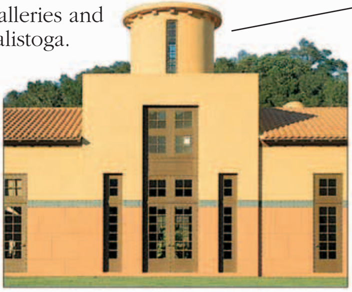
The Napa Wine Country ③

Ballooning in Napa Valley

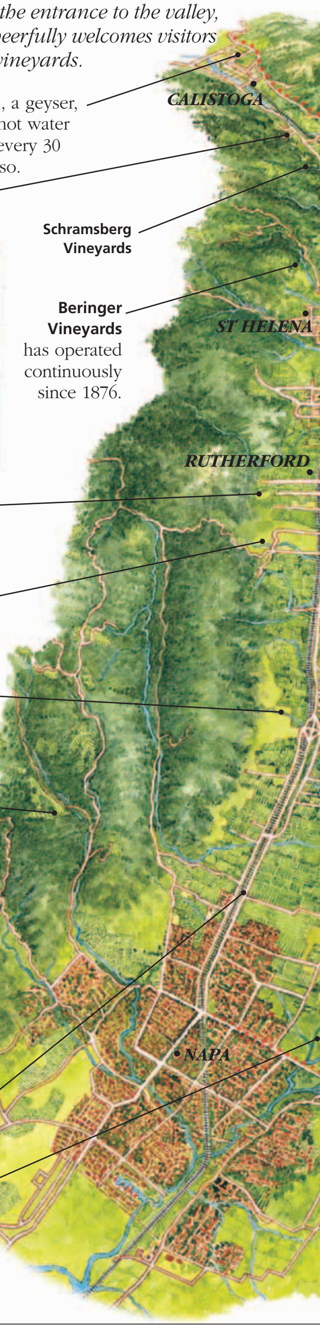
The narrow Napa Valley, with its rolling hillsides and fertile valley floor, is the heart and soul of the California wine industry. It supports over 400 wineries, some dating from the 19th century, with one or two down every country lane. Many welcome visitors for tours and tastings, and each part of the valley has its own distinctive wines *(see pp226–7)*. The rural beauty of the valley is striking at every season, and can be viewed from a balloon, a bike or a train. Other attractions include museums, galleries and the hot springs in Calistoga.


WELCOME to this world famous
wine growing region
NAPA VALLEY
and the wine is bottled poetry...

Napa Valley Sign
Located at the entrance to the valley, this sign cheerfully welcomes visitors to its lush vineyards.



Clos Pegase Winery
With its free tours and private art collection, this winery actively encourages visitors. It is housed in an award-winning Postmodern building.



Old Faithful, a geyser, discharges hot water and steam every 30 minutes or so.

Schramsberg Vineyards

Beringer Vineyards has operated continuously since 1876.

Rubicon Estate dates back to 1879. Tours start from the original winery, now the tasting room.

Robert Mondavi Winery uses the latest technology in its Mission-style building.

Domain Chandon produces 500,000 cases of sparkling wines annually.

Hess Collection Winery has both distinctive wines and fine works of art.

Trefethen Vineyards

Silverado Hill Cellars

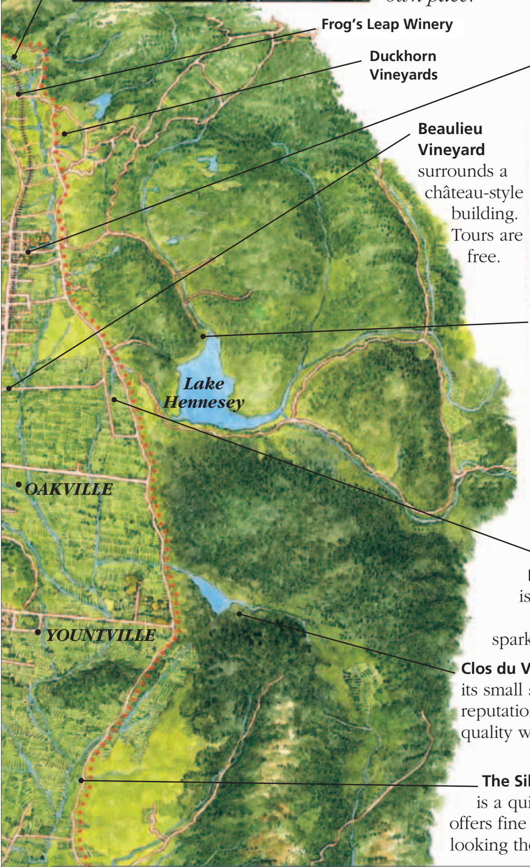
KEY

═ Road
〰 River
▨ Vineyard
┼ Railroad
••• Silverado Trail

Napa Valley Wine Train
Gourmet meals and excellent wines are served on this luxury train as it makes its three-hour trip along the valley, but some passengers come just for the ride.

Sterling Vineyard
Perched on a rocky knoll overlooking the vineyards below, this unusual Greek-style winery is reached via an overhead gondola. The tour is marked by signs, allowing visitors to set their own pace.

V Sattui Vineyard
French oak barrels are used for ageing the wine in some wineries.



Frog's Leap Winery

Duckhorn Vineyards

Beaulieu Vineyard surrounds a château-style building. Tours are free.

Mumm Napa Valley is known for its classic sparkling wines.

Clos du Val, despite its small size, has a reputation for high-quality wines.

The Silverado Trail is a quiet road that offers fine views overlooking the vineyards.

Joseph Phelps Vineyard
Grape-pickers harvest the year's crop in one of California's most prestigious wineries. Tours are by appointment.

THE FIGHT AGAINST PHYLLOXERA

The phylloxera louse destroyed crops in the Napa Valley late in the 19th century, almost putting an end to the wine industry. Research found that new vines could thrive if grafted onto resistant rootstock, and disaster was averted. In 1980 the louse reappeared, and again infected plants had to be uprooted.

Infected vines being cleared for new resistant rootstock

TIPS FOR TRAVELERS

Distance from San Francisco: *55 miles (120 km).*
Duration of journey: *About one hour to Napa.*
Getting there: *Take US 101 north, then Hwy 37 to Vallejo, then Hwy 29 to Napa. Hwy 29 runs along the valley to Calistoga. Several bus companies offer tours, often including lunch.*
When to go: *In early spring the fields are carpeted with bright yellow mustard. Grapes begin to ripen in the summer heat. In September and October grapes are harvested and pressed, and vine leaves turn gold and red. Winter is the rainy season, when vines are pruned in preparation and new wine is bottled.*
Where to stay and eat: *For information, visit* **www.**legendarynapavalley.com
Visitor information: *Napa Valley Destination Council, 1310 Napa Town Center.*
Tel *(707) 226-5813.*

Exploring the Napa Wine Country

A hedonist's dream, the long Napa Valley specializes in rich, distinctive wines, designer winery buildings, modern art collections, spas and artisan crafts. Indulging in a few wine tastings with a picnic and some shopping can easily consume one day. A dawn balloon ride, mud bath treatment and visits to art galleries will fill another. Before 1976, the *phylloxera* louse, Prohibition, and dull flavors haunted Napa winemakers. In that year, Chateau Montelena Chardonnay and Stag's Leap Cabernet Sauvignon won a blind tasting competition in Paris, and with a fresh marketing approach from Robert Mondavi the Napa Valley morphed into a competitive wine region with wineries in every field and hillock.

Wine tasting at one of Napa Valley's many wineries

WINE TASTING

www.napavalley.com/wineries

Many wineries have tasting rooms for sampling of the latest bottling, or will do so by appointment. Employees know products, prices, the characteristics of a vineyard's soil and the climate that gives each wine its flavor. Some wineries offer tours with a tasting at the end. Visitor volume and tasting room popularity have inspired some wineries to charge for tastings and tours. Robert Mondavi Winery bustles with tastings, presentations, tours and cooking demonstrations. Grgich Hills Cellars, Chateau Montelena Winery, Heitz Wine Cellars, Duckhorn Vineyards, Rutherford Hills, Franciscan Oakville Estates, V. Sattui Winery, Beaulieu Vineyard, and Stag's Leap all have wines with distinctive styles to taste. Sparkling wine fans should head to Mumm Cuvée Napa, Domaine Chandon and Domaine Carneros.

ART MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Wineries are a superb venue for art exhibits, adding cultural cachet to the experience.

Film director Francis Ford Coppola transformed the 1879 Inglenook Winery into the Niebaum-Coppola Estate Winery. Renamed Rubicon Estate in 2006, the winery includes his movie memorabilia museum.

The Hess Collection gallery has the contemporary European and US painting and sculpture collection of owner Donald Hess and includes artists Robert Motherwell and Frank Stella.

Artesa Winery's visitor center features artist-in-residence Gordon Huether's glass, metal and canvas art. Clos Pegase has a famed modern-era sculpture garden, and Peju Province's contemporary art collection is on display in its Liana Gallery. Mumm Cuvée Napa's Fine Art photography galleries offer changing exhibitions, while the Private Collection Gallery includes images by famed photographers such as Ansel Adams. Evolved beyond a winery to a nature and art setting, di Rosa Preserve features a lake, a glass chapel, the Gatehouse Gallery and gardens to showcase exhibits from artists from the California Bay area.

ARCHITECTURE

There are several buildings of architectural note in the valley. The hospitality center at St. Helena's Beringer Vineyards, the oldest continuously operating winery in the area, is the Rhine House, dating from 1883, with wooden panelling, a long bar and stained glass windows.

Whitewashed, Mykonos-style Sterling Vineyards perches prettily on a Calistoga hill, while Robert Mondavi Winery adopted a California Mission style, with statues of animals and St. Francis by renowned sculptor Beniamino Bufano.

Architect Michael Graves was commissioned to design the Clos Pegase Winery, with its spare, Post-modern lines. Some wineries, like Domaine Carneros by Taittinger, acknowledge French winemaking roots with grand chateau structures. In 2004, in deference to his origins, Darioush Khaledi gave the Silverado Trail a row of columns leading to his golden Darioush winery building built to look like Persepolis, Persia's ancient capital city.

The Rhine House at Beringer Vineyards

Hot-air balloon rides over Napa Wine Country vineyards

BALLOON, BICYCLE AND TRAIN TRAVEL

Napa Valley Wine Train 1275 McKinstry Street, Napa, CA 94559. **Reservations Tel** *(707) 253-2111.* **www**.winetrain.com

Pre-dawn Napa Valley skies reveal a parade of colorful hot-air balloons ascending above vineyards or descending to almost touch the tops of vines. Prevailing winds coming north from San Francisco Bay dictate the early launch. Morning fog makes the journey surreal and chilly, warmed by the balloon burner's flame. Floating above the orderly rows of vineyards and springtime fields of yellow mustard is rewarded upon landing with a traditional toast of sparkling wine, often accompanied by a gourmet breakfast.

Cyclists find the long, generally flat valley a delight, and take to the Silverado Trail on the valley's east side to visit some of the more than 30 wineries between Napa and Calistoga. Summer heat is most intense in the afternoon. Savvy cyclists start early to avoid vehicular traffic that is extremely congested on weekends and holidays.

The Napa Valley Wine Train trip from Napa to St. Helena and back lasts three hours. Tours include brunch, lunch or dinner prepared on board, and served in restored 1915-17 Pullman Dining and Lounge Cars. Special itineraries stop for tours of Domaine Chandon, Raymond Vineyards or Grgich Hills Winery. Informal wine tasting seminars are conducted in the Napa Valley Wine Train's McKinstry station before passengers board the sleek silver and maroon train.

Themed events are organized in the glass-topped dining car including a five-course Moonlight Escapade Dinner held each full moon, and 1915 is recreated on Murder Mystery Theatre Gourmet Dinner trips.

SPAS

See **www**.napavalley.com for information on the best local spas

Calistoga mud treatment

Calistoga, at the north end of Napa Valley, is literally a hotbed of geothermal activity. Hot springs and local volcanic mud from an ancient eruption of Mount St. Helena created an industry here today that was started thousands of years ago. Most of the spas are located on Calistoga's main streets, Lincoln Avenue and Washington Street.

Mud bath treatments are a return to a natural form of relaxation, and for some, detoxification and rejuvenation, too. Guests immerse their bodies from the neck down in a deep tub filled with brown mud consisting of peat, clay and mineral water from the local hot springs. Spa visits also include a swim in a hot springs pool. In the last few decades, many of the original no-nonsense mud spas have added the type of amenities and treatments offered in European-style spas. Most spas also offer simple on-site accommodation.

SHOPPING

A winery tasting room may be the only place to taste and buy a delightful wine that is in limited production, and veteran wine country shoppers advise visitors to taste and buy on the spot. Wineries will check legal restrictions on shipping to other states or internationally. Winery gift shops stock everything from cookbooks to corkscrews, embellished with the establishment's name. Comestibles, convenient for picnics, are also often on sale.

The Oakville Grocery on Highway 29 is a landmark where shoppers can buy local wines, condiments and olive oils, or order a sandwich piled with local cheese and meats.

Artists of the Valley, a gallery of the Napa Valley Art Association, is one of many places to browse and shop in St. Helena. New York's artisan-producer temple, Dean & DeLuca, also has an outpost in St. Helena featuring fresh local Napa area produce and 1,400 California wines. Vintage 1870, in an historic red brick Groezinger Winery complex in Yountville, has clothing shops, a wine shop and wine-tasting room, and several art galleries.

The luxurious Napa Valley Wine Train

Redwood National Park ④

Visitor Center *1111 Second St, Crescent City.* ***Tel*** *(707) 464-6101.* Arcata to Crescent City is 78 miles (125 km). Best route is US Hwy 101. **www**.redwood.national-park.com

Some of the largest original redwood forests in the world are preserved in this national park. Stretching along the coastline, the 58,000-acre (23,500-ha) park includes many smaller state parks and can be explored along a day-long drive. A two-day trip, however, allows time to walk away from the roads and experience the tranquility of the stately groves, or spot one of the world's last remaining herds of Roosevelt elk.

The park's headquarters are in **Crescent City**, a few miles north of which lies the 9,200-acre (3,720-ha) Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, with the most awe-inspiring coastal redwoods. Named after the fur trapper Jedediah Smith, the first white man who walked across the US, it has excellent campground facilities. South from Crescent City, the **Trees of Mystery** grove features unusual looking giant fiberglass statues.

The park's main attraction is the world's tallest tree, a 368-ft (112-m) giant, standing in the **Tall Trees Grove**. Farther south is Big Lagoon, a fresh-water lake stretching for 3 miles (5 km) and two other estuaries. Together, they form **Humboldt Lagoons State Park**. The headlands at Patrick's Point State Park, at the southern end, are great for spotting migrating gray whales in winter. Rock pools abound with smaller marine life.

Coastal redwood treees

Lassen Volcanic National park

Lassen Volcanic National Park ⑤

🚌 Chester, Red Bluff. **Visitor Center** ***Tel*** *(530) 595-4444.* ○ *daily.* **www**.nps.gov/lavo

Before the eruption of Mount St. Helens in Washington in 1980, the 10,457-ft (3,187-m) high Lassen Peak was the last volcano to erupt on mainland US. In nearly 300 eruptions between 1914 and 1917, it laid 100,000 acres (40,500 ha) of the surrounding land to waste.

Lassen Peak is considered to be still active. Numerous areas on its flanks show clear signs of the geological processes. The boardwalk trail of Bumpass Hell (named for an early guide, who lost his leg in a boiling mudpot in 1865) leads past a series of steaming sulfurous pools of boiling water, heated by molten rock deep underground. In summer, visitors can take the winding road through the park, climbing more than 8,500 ft (2,590 m) high to Summit Lake. The road continues winding its way through the so-called Devastated Area, a bleak gray landscape of rough volcanic mudflows, which terminates at the Manzanita Lake, and the **Loomis Museum**.

🏛 Loomis Museum

Lassen Park Rd, N Entrance.
Tel *(530) 595-4444.* ○ *late May–late Sep only. Call for times.*

Sonoma Valley ⑥

👪 8,600. ✈ 🚌 90 Broadway & W Napa Sts, Sonoma Plaza. ℹ *453 1st St E, (707) 996-1090.* 🎉 *Valley of the Moon Vintage Festival (late Sep).*

Nestling picturesquely in the crescent-shaped Sonoma Valley are 6,000 acres (2,400 ha) of beautiful vineyards. At the foot of the valley lies the tiny town of Sonoma. This town has had a colorful past, as it was here on June 14, 1846, that about 30 armed American farmers captured Mexican General Mariano Vallejo and his men, to protest the fact that land ownership was reserved for Mexican citizens. They seized control of Sonoma, declared California an independent republic, and flew their own flag, with a crude drawing of a grizzly bear. Although the republic was annulled 25 days later when the United States annexed California, the Bear Flag design was adopted as the official state flag in 1911.

Sonoma's main attractions are its world-famous wineries and meticulously preserved historical sites around the Spanish-style plaza. Many of the adobe buildings house wine shops, boutiques, and restaurants serving excellent local cuisine. East of the plaza is the restored **Mission San Francisco Solano de Sonoma**, the last of California's 21 historic Franciscan missions (founded by Father José Altimira of Spain in 1823). Today, all that survives of the original building is the corridor of his quarters. The adobe chapel was built by

General Vallejo in 1840. A short drive northward leads to the **Jack London State Historic Park**. In the early 1900s, London, famous author of *The Call of the Wild and The Sea Wolf*, abandoned his hectic lifestyle to live in this tranquil 800-acre (325-ha) expanse of oaks, madrones, and redwoods. The park retains eerie ruins of London's dream home, the Wolf House, mysteriously destroyed by fire just before completion. After London's death, his widow, Charmian Kittredge, built a magnificent home on the ranch, called the House of Happy Walls. Today, it is a museum, worth a visit for its display of London memorabilia.

Mission San Francisco Solano de Sonoma
E Spain St. ***Tel*** *(707) 938-1519.*
○ *10am–5pm daily.* ● *Jan 1, Thanksgiving, Dec 25.*

Jack London State Historic Park
London Ranch Rd, Glen Ellen. ***Tel*** *(707) 938-5216.* **Park & Museum** ○ *10am–5pm daily.* ● *Jan 1, Thanksgiving, Dec 25.* ♿ *museum only.*

SONOMA VALLEY WINERIES

The arms of the Sebastiani Vineyards

The Sonoma Valley has a rare combination of soil, sun, and rain perfect for growing superior wine grapes. In 1824, Father José Altimira planted Sonoma's first grapevines to produce sacramental wine for mass at the Mission San Francisco Solano de Sonoma. In 1834, General Vallejo replanted the vines and sold the wine he made to San Francisco merchants. In 1857, Hungarian Count Agoston Haraszthy planted the nation's first European varietals at Sonoma's Buena Vista Winery, now the oldest premium winery in the state.

The Sonoma Valley includes the Sonoma Valley, Carneros, and Sonoma Mountain wine-growing regions. The climate varies slightly creating different environments suitable for particular grape varieties, including Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay. Today, Sonoma has more than 35 wineries, which produce about 5.4 million cases of wine a year. Some of the most notable wineries are Sebastiani Vineyards, Glen Ellen Winery; Gundlach-Bundschu Winery; and Château St. Jean. Most wineries have picnic areas, free wine tastings, and tours.

Vineyards in the Sonoma Valley

Sacramento ❼

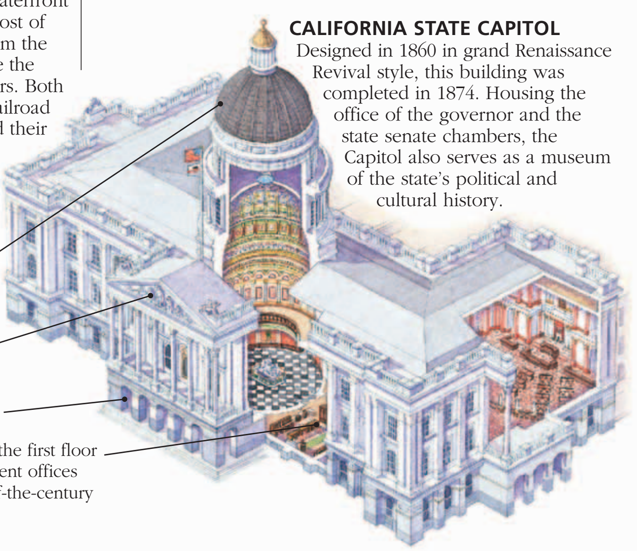
✈ 🚆 🚌 *30, 31, 32.* ℹ *(916) 442-7644.* **www**.oldsacramento.com

Founded by John Sutter in 1839, California's capital city preserves many historic buildings along the waterfront in Old Sacramento. Most of the structures date from the 1850s, when it became the supply point for miners. Both the transcontinental railroad and Pony Express had their western terminus here, with riverboats providing passage to San Francisco. The **California State Railroad Museum**, at the northern edge of the old town, houses some immaculately restored locomotives. A little away from the old city, the State Capitol stands in a landscaped park. To its east, Sutter's Fort is the town's restored original settlement.

California State Railroad Museum
111 I St. ***Tel*** *(916) 445-6645.*
○ *10am–5pm daily.* ● *Jan 1, Thanksgiving, Dec 25.*

CALIFORNIA STATE CAPITOL

Designed in 1860 in grand Renaissance Revival style, this building was completed in 1874. Housing the office of the governor and the state senate chambers, the Capitol also serves as a museum of the state's political and cultural history.



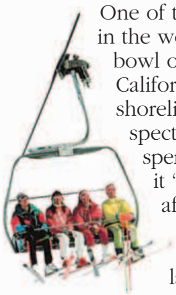
The Capitol Rotunda was restored to its original 19th-century splendor in 1975.

Original 1860 statuary

Entrance

The Historic Offices on the first floor contain a few government offices restored to their turn-of-the-century appearance.

Lake Tahoe ❽

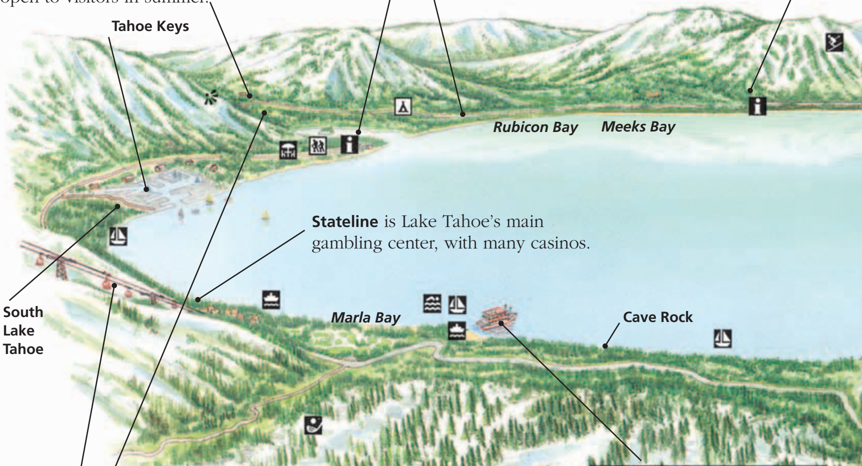


Ski lift at Homewood ski resort

One of the most beautiful bodies of water in the world, Lake Tahoe lies in an alpine bowl on the border between Nevada and California. Surrounded by forested peaks, its shoreline measures 72 miles (116 km). The spectacular setting led Mark Twain, who spent a summer here in the 1860s, to coin it "surely the fairest picture the earth affords." Calling itself a year-round playground, Tahoe today has ski resorts, gambling, hiking trails, lakeside cabins, historic architecture, and special summer events including an Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament.

Ehrman Mansion and Visitor Center

This Queen Anne-style summer home was built in 1903. It opens for tours in summer.



Vikingsholm Castle, built in 1929, is a replica of a Scandinavian Castle now open to visitors in summer.

Stateline is Lake Tahoe's main gambling center, with many casinos.

Emerald Bay State Park

This wooded, isolated wilderness, with its granite crags and waterfalls, is one of the natural wonders of California.

KEY

- Skiing
- Hiking
- Cycling
- Swimming
- Fishing
- Viewing point
- Sailing
- Boat trips
- Visitor information center
- Camping
- Picnic area
- Golf course

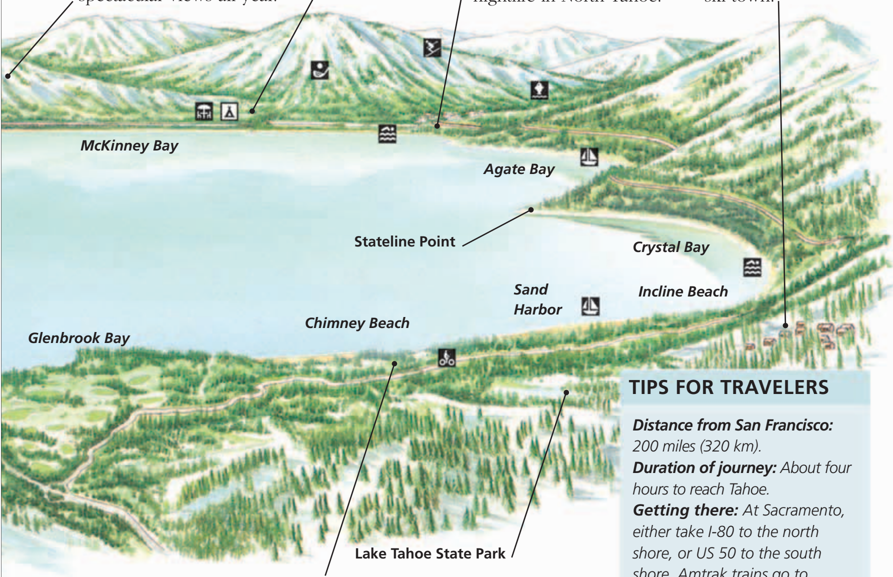
Zephyr Cove and MS *Dixie*

Many visitors enjoy touring the lake on a stern-wheeler paddle boat. The MS Dixie makes regular trips from Zephyr Cove.

SKIING AROUND LAKE TAHOE

The peaks surrounding Lake Tahoe, particularly those on the California side, are famous for their many ski resorts. These include the world-class Alpine Meadows and Squaw Valley, where the Winter Olympics were held in 1960. The area is a sunny paradise for both downhill and cross-country skiers, with miles of runs through pine forests and open meadows, and down ridges with splendid views of the lake. There are powder areas and challenging slopes for experts and gentle snow bowls for beginners. The runs on the Nevada side of the border are quieter.

View over ski slopes near Lake Tahoe



Homewood is a popular ski resort in winter, with spectacular views all year.

Kaspian picnic area

Tahoe City is the focal point for shopping and nightlife in North Tahoe.

Incline Village is a small, sophisticated ski town.

Stateline Point

Lake Tahoe State Park

Nevada Shore during Summer

Lake Tahoe's wild, unspoiled Nevada shoreline is popular with cyclists and hikers and has some fine sandy beaches.

TIPS FOR TRAVELERS

Distance from San Francisco: *200 miles (320 km).*

Duration of journey: *About four hours to reach Tahoe.*

Getting there: *At Sacramento, either take I-80 to the north shore, or US 50 to the south shore. Amtrak trains go to Truckee, where you can rent a car. Greyhound buses and limited flights from the Bay Area serve South Lake Tahoe.*

When to go: *Peak seasons are July and August, and December, when ski resorts are open. Spring and fall are less crowded, but some facilities may be closed.*

Where to stay and eat: *For ideas and suggestions, contact the visitor information centers.*

Visitor information: *Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority, South Lake Tahoe.* ***Tel*** *(1) (800) 288-2463. North Lake Tahoe Visitors Bureau.* ***Tel*** *(888) 934-1262.*

www.gotahoenorth.com

Exploring Lake Tahoe

Beauty, size, and a unique alpine setting distinguish Lake Tahoe from other lakes in the US. It is sometimes compared to Russia's Lake Baikal despite much more lakeshore development. Lake Tahoe offers outstanding pedestrian and bike-accessible views from a loop trail, which took some 20 years to build as well as a variety of water-based sports. There are gracious and distinctive historic mansions built as summer getaways for the rich; and a choice of California or Nevada views from casino rooms at Stateline.

Hiking along one of Lake Tahoe's many trails

TAHOE RIM TRAIL

Tel *(775) 298-0012.*
www.tahoerimtrail.org

Hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikes can travel on most stretches of the eight segments that complete the Tahoe Rim Trail's (TRT) 165-mile (266-km) loop. The TRT is open from snowmelt, usually in June, until the first major snowfall, normally in October. Some of Lake Tahoe's most scenic vistas are accessible on this trail, which features beautiful pine and aspen forests, huge grey granite boulders, alpine meadow wildflowers, and streams. Alpine elevations range from 6,300 ft (1,920 m) to 10,300 ft (3,150 m).

Moderate trails, with an average ten percent grade, are indicated with light blue triangular trailhead signs, though the TRT can be accessed almost anywhere along its well-constructed dirt path. The pedestrian-only 1.3-mile (2-km) Tahoe Meadows Interpretive Trail at the north end is a quick introduction to TRT scenery and terrain. The most rugged segment is on the western side of the lake.

SPORTS ON THE LAKE

Fishing trips are a popular form of recreation on Lake Tahoe. Visitors may prefer a challenging search for one of the large Mackinaw trout that swim up to 400 ft (122 m) below the surface, or angling for rainbow or brown trout or Kokanee salmon.

Motorboats, some with water skiers or wake boarders in tow, speed across the lake and those in search of a further adrenaline rush can also rent waverunners. Sailors and kite surfers are challenged by winds coming down from the Sierra peaks. Hang- and para-gliders enjoy views of the blue waters from above while canoes and kayaks are a silent way to explore hidden coves and shorelines. Scuba divers seeking underwater forests or monster trout can enter the 100-ft (30-m) visibility freshwater lake from sloping beaches or kayaks.

Kayaking on the clear waters of Lake Tahoe

Winter Olympic Games, Squaw Valley, 1960

SQUAW VALLEY

8 miles northwest of Tahoe City. ***Tel*** *(530) 583-6985.* **www**.squaw.com

Squaw Valley landed on the international ski map as host of the VIII Winter Olympic Games in 1960. This was the site of the first televised Olympics and an opening-ceremony snowfall arrived just in time to ensure a sufficient base for downhill events.

Today, the Olympic Flame and original Tower of Nations still remain at the valley's entrance. This all-season resort includes more than 30 lifts, shopping and restaurants facilities, and accommodation. Winter skiers and snow-boarders can expect an average of 450 inches of annual snowfall. High Camp, at 8,200 ft (4,500 m) above sea level, has magnificent views of Lake Tahoe. There is also a 1960 Olympic Winter Games Museum, a year-round ice pavilion for skating, an indoor climbing wall, a swimming pool, guided hikes through slopes of wild-flowers, and full moon night walks to the valley floor.

Emerald Bay and the Eagle Falls trail

STATELINE

Situated on the border of California and the more liberal state of Nevada, Stateline is the main gambling town of the Lake Tahoe region. In the 1860s, Comstock Silver prospectors journeyed to Virginia City through Lakeside and Edgewood, and Pony Express riders made this their last stop in Nevada. In 1873, a formal state border was established along the southern end of Lake Tahoe.

There are rooms in the hotel-casinos here where your feet can straddle both states. Views of either state are fine, but the west has prized California views of the lake, shore, forests, and mountains.

EMERALD BAY

22 miles south of Tahoe City.
Tel *(530) 541-3030.*

The most famous postcard view of Lake Tahoe depicts the deep blue green waters of Emerald Bay, with tiny Fannette Island in the middle. The granite rock of Fannette Island is thought to have been resistant to the glacial ice and the surviving stone ruins here were once a private teahouse.

Emerald Bay, 3-miles (4.8-km) long, is the best-known feature of the state park that adopts its name. The three-tiered Eagle Falls cascades through the park 500 ft (152 m) down to Vikingsholm, and visitors can walk the trail.

The glacier-sculpted bay became a National Natural Landmark in 1969 and draws kayakers to explore its calm waters. Emerald Bay is also a protected Underwater Park, where scuba divers can explore an ancient underwater forest, and wrecked dorries and barges.

VIKINGSHOLM CASTLE

Emerald Bay St Pk. ***Tel*** *(530) 541-3030.* ○ *mid-Jun–Labor Day.*

Mrs Lora Josephine Knight's summer house, completed in 1929, is a fine example of 11th-century Scandinavian architecture, complete with turrets, sod roofs, and carved dragons. Mrs Knight visited Scandinavia with her architect in 1928 to gather ideas for the castle's design. Using local wood and granite, 200 artisans handmade, planed, carved, stained, and painted Vikingsholm's outer walls and interiors. The gaily-painted furniture and textiles are also replicated, down to hand-forged hinges and latches.

EHRMAN MANSION

Sugar Point Pine St Pk. ***Tel*** *(530) 525-7982.* ○ *Jul–Labor Day.* ☞ *Memorial Day–late Sep: 10am–3pm daily.* ✋ *$5 (adults).*

Banker Isaias W. Hellman joined other wealthy landowners building summer homes around Lake Tahoe in 1903. Hellman engaged architect William Danforth Bliss to design a Queen Anne-style residence in the most sophisticated rustic style. The Ehrman Mansion is three storeys high, consisting of redwood-paneled walls and bright, large windows for maximum light. A palatial verandah with rustic chairs for rocking and lounging looks down over Lake Tahoe. A wood-burning steam generator produced electric lighting, the latest in modern technology, until the arrival of commercial energy in 1927 and there was also a modern plumbing system.

LAKE TAHOE FACTS

More than two million years ago, rain and snow formed a lake at the south end of this valley, between two parallel sections of Earth crust. Ice Age glaciers shaped the lake into a round bowl that averages a depth of 990 ft (300 m) but plunges to 1,685 ft (515 m) below the surface at one point. North America's third deepest lake, Lake Tahoe is 22 miles (35 km) long by 12 miles (19 km) wide. It lies 6,300 ft (1,920 m) above sea level and extends over 193 sq miles (99 sq km). The deep, fresh, and clear emerald green and dark sapphire blue water of this seemingly endless lake is estimated to be 99.7 per cent pure – the quality of distilled water.

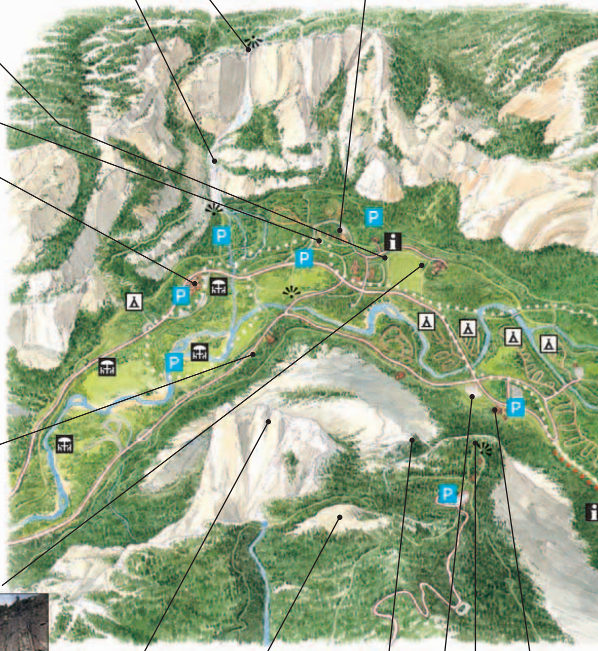
A view from the surrounding peaks

Yosemite National Park ⑨

Black bears

A wilderness of evergreen forests, alpine meadows and sheer walls of granite, most of Yosemite National Park is accessible only to hikers or horse riders. The spectacular Yosemite Valley, however, is easily reached by vehicle along 200 miles (320 km) of paved roads. Soaring cliffs, plunging waterfalls, gigantic trees, rugged canyons, mountains and valleys give Yosemite its incomparable beauty.

Upper Yosemite Fall
In two mighty leaps linked by a cascade, Yosemite Creek drops 2,425 ft (739 m).

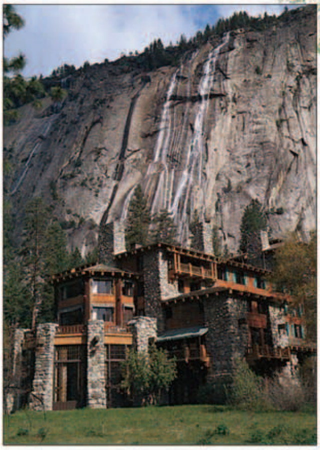


Lower Yosemite Fall
Yosemite Museum
Yosemite Village
Bicycle rental
Sentinel Rock
Staircase Falls
Winter ice skating
Camp Curry

The Valley Visitor Center features a prototype Miwok American Indian encampment.

Sentinel Dome can be reached on foot from the valley floor. The trail continues to Glacier Point.

Yosemite Chapel *(1879)*
This wooden church is all that is left of the Old Village.



Ahwahnee Hotel
Rustic architecture, elegant décor and beautiful views make this hotel one of the most renowned in the country.

View from Glacier Point
The 3,200-ft (975-m) brink of Glacier Point provides a fine view down Tenaya Canyon.

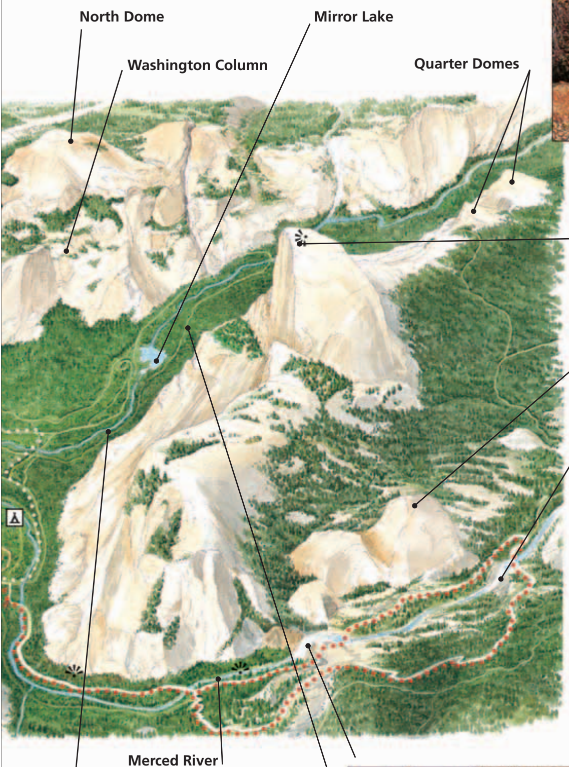
BEYOND THE VALLEY

From May to October, shuttle buses carry visitors to Mariposa Grove, 35 miles (56 km) south of Yosemite Valley, where the Grizzly Giant is the largest and oldest sequoia tree in the Park. Northeast, Tuolumne Meadows is the largest Sierra alpine meadow and a good place to see deer and bears.

Giant sequoia tree

Half Dome in Autumn

A formidable trail climbs to the top of this polished cliff jutting above the wooded valley floor.



KEY

- Road
- ○○○ Bicycle route
- ●●● Suggested walk
- Paths and trails
- Rivers
- P Parking
- Camping
- Viewing point
- Picnic area

Vernal Fall

The Merced River pours into its canyon over the 317-ft (97-m) lip of this waterfall.

TIPS FOR TRAVELERS

Distance from San Francisco: *194 miles (312 km).*

Duration of journey: *About five hours to reach Yosemite.*

Getting there: *From Stockton, Hwy 120 is the fastest route; Hwy 140, the All-Weather Highway, is prettier and preferable in winter. Bus tours operate to Yosemite Valley* (see p279), *but a rental car is advisable for other parts.*

When to go: *The waterfalls are fullest Mar–Jun. Peak season is Jun–Aug. Crowds diminish in September and October. Snow closes many roads Nov–Apr: tire chains are recommended.*

Where to stay and eat: *Accommodation ranges from rustic tent shelters to lodges. All hotels have good restaurants.*

Visitor information: *Valley Visitor Center, Yosemite Village.* ***Tel*** *(209) 372-0299.* **www**.nps.gov/yose ***Tel*** *(209) 372-0200 (24-hour park, weather, and traffic info).*

Exploring Yosemite National Park

Some of the world's most beautiful mountain terrain is protected within the 1,170 sq miles (3,030 sq km) of Yosemite National Park. Hundreds of thousands of visitors descend upon the park each year to admire its breathtaking views, formed by millions of years of glacial activity. Each season offers a different experience, from the swelling waterfalls in spring to the rustic colors of autumn. The summer months are the most crowded, but during the snowbound winter months several roads are inaccessible. Fall is the best time to visit, when temperatures are mild and crowds are reduced. Bus tours, cycle paths, hiking trails, and roads are all aimed at leading visitors from one awe-inspiring panoramic scene to another.

Upper Yosemite Falls, swollen with ice-melt in the spring

Half Dome

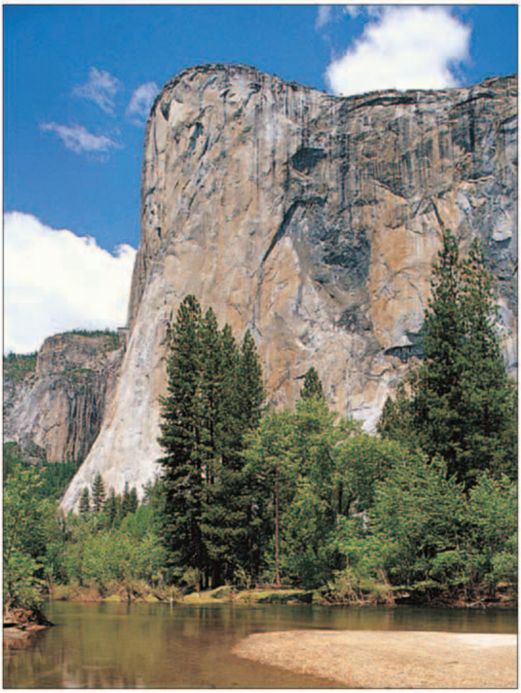
Eastern end of Yosemite Valley.
○ *daily.*

At nearly 1 mile (1.6 km) above the valley floor, the silhouette of Half Dome has become a symbol of Yosemite. Its curved back rises to a peak, before dropping vertically down to the valley. Geologists believe that Half Dome is not half, but three-quarters of its original size. It is thought that as recently as 15,000 years ago, glacial ice floes moved through the valley from the Sierra crest, scything off rock and depositing it downstream. The 8,840-ft (2,695 m) summit of Half Dome offers an amazing view of the valley. The 9-mile (14-km) trail from Happy Isles trailhead to the peak can be strenuous and long, taking around 10 to 12 hours.

Yosemite Falls

North Yosemite Valley. ○ *daily.*

Yosemite Falls are the highest waterfalls in North America and tumble from a height of 2,425 ft (740 m) in two great drops, Upper Yosemite and Lower Yosemite Falls. One of the most recognizable features of the park, the cascades are visible all over the valley.



Sheer drop of El Capitán

The top of Upper Yosemite Falls, by far the longer and more elegant of the pair, can be reached via a strenuous 7-mile (11-km) round-trip trail. The Lower Falls are easier to visit, via a short trail that starts next to Yosemite Lodge and frames an unforgettable view of both falls.

As with all the park's waterfalls, Yosemite Falls are at their peak in May and June, when the winter snows melt and fill the creek to capacity. Conversely, by September the falls often dry up and disappear altogether, their presence marked only by a dark stain on the granite wall.

Vernal and Nevada Falls

Eastern end of Yosemite Valley.
○ *daily.*

A popular half-day hike in Yosemite National Park is the Mist Trail, which visits these two waterfalls. The first fall on the 7-mile (11-km) round-trip is Vernal Fall, which plunges 320 ft (95 m) and spreads its spray across the trail (carry a poncho or rain jacket in spring.) The trail can be strenuous for the 2 miles (3 km) to the top of Nevada Fall, which drops an impressive 595 ft (180 m). Here, the Mist Trail joins the John Muir Trail, which runs around the back of Half Dome all the way south to the summit of Mount Whitney.

Tunnel View, looking across Yosemite Valley

Glacier Point

Glacier Point Rd. ○ *May–Oct: daily.*

The great Yosemite panorama can be experienced from Glacier Point, which rests on a rocky ledge 3,215 ft (980 m) above the valley floor. Most of the waterfalls and other features of Yosemite Valley are visible from here, but the dominant feature is Half Dome. The panorama also includes much of the surrounding landscape, a beautiful area of alpine peaks and meadows.

Glacier Point can be reached only during the summer. The road is blocked by snow during winter at Badger Pass, which was developed in 1935 as California's first commercial ski resort. Another summer route is the Four-Mile Trail, which begins at the western side of the valley. Summer bus services also allow hikers to ride up to Glacier Point then hike down to the valley.

Mariposa Grove

Visitors' Center Hwy 41, South Entrance. ○ *mid-May–Oct: daily.*

At the southern end of Yosemite, this beautiful grove was one of the main reasons the park was established. More than 500 giant sequoia trees can be seen here, some of which are more than 3,000 years old, 250 ft (75 m) tall and more than 30 ft (9 m) in diameter at their base. A series of hiking trails winds through the grove, and open-air trams make a 5-mile (8-km) circuit along roads constructed during the early years of Yosemite tourism.

Tunnel View

Hwy 41 overlooking Yosemite Valley. ○ *daily.*

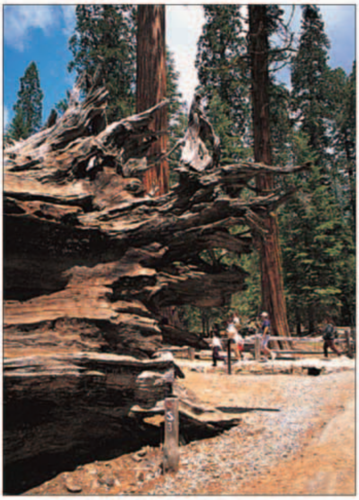
One of the most photographed views of Yosemite can be seen from this lookout on Hwy 41 at the western end of the valley. Despite the name, which is taken from the highway tunnel that leads to Glacier Point Road, the view is incredible, with El Capitán on the left, Bridalveil Fall on the right and Half Dome at the center.

El Capitán

Northwestern end of Yosemite Valley. ○ *daily.*

Standing guard at the western entrance to Yosemite Valley, the granite wall of El Capitán rises more than 4,500 ft (1,370 m) above the valley floor. The world's largest exposed rock, El Capitán is a magnet to rock-climbers, who spend days on its sheer face to reach the top. The less adventurous congregate in the meadow below, watching the rock-climbers through binoculars.

Named by US soldiers, who in 1851 were the first white Americans to visit the valley, El Capitán is the Spanish phrase for "captain."


Giant sequoia trees in Mariposa Grove

Tuolumne Meadows

Hwy 120, Tioga Rd. ○ *Jun–Sep: daily.*

In summer, when the snows have melted and the wildflowers are in full bloom, the best place to experience the striking beauty of the Yosemite landscape are these subalpine meadows along the Tuolumne River. Located 55 miles (88 km) from Yosemite valley via Tioga Pass Road, Tuolumne Meadows are also a base for hikers setting off to explore the area's many granite peaks and trails.

Black-tailed deer roaming Yosemite's meadows

Ahwahnee Hotel

Yosemite Valley. ***Tel*** *(209) 372-1407.* ○ *daily.*

A building that comes close to Yosemite's natural beauty is the Ahwahnee Hotel, built in 1927 at a cost of $1.5 million. It was designed by Gilbert Stanley Underwood, who used giant granite boulders and massive wood timbers to create a rustic elegance in tune with its surroundings. The interior of the Ahwahnee Hotel also emulates the natural setting, decorated in a Native American style. Examples of Native American arts and crafts are on display in the lobbies. The hotel is also noted for its high-quality restaurant, the Ahwahnee Dining Room.

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WHERE TO STAY

San Francisco offers a wide choice of places to stay, from spartan youth hostels to the most elegant and luxurious of hotels. There are more than 33,000 rooms available in the city, providing accommodations to suit every budget and taste. The top hotels are good value by international standards and have long been rated among the best in the world. For the traveler on a budget, there are many cheap and comfortable youth hostels and motels.

SMALL LUXURY HOTELS OF THE WORLD
SLH

Sign over small hotel

Another option is to stay somewhere offering bed-and-breakfast facilities. There are a number of such establishments in the city, and some of them are in beautifully restored 19th-century mansions. Bed-and-breakfasts are usually smaller than hotels, and are sometimes quite opulent. We have selected a variety of places to stay that represent the best of their kind, covering all price ranges. For more details on each hotel, turn to the listings on pages 210–221.

WHERE TO LOOK

Most of San Francisco's hotels are located in and around bustling Union Square, within easy walking distance of the Financial District and the Moscone Convention Center. Nearby Nob Hill, where many of the finer hotels are situated, is more tranquil, while the Fisherman's Wharf area has a number of hotels and motels suitable for families.

Away from the center, on the fringes of the Financial District and along Lombard Street in the Marina District, are a tremendous number of moderately priced motels. Bed-and-breakfast rooms are scattered throughout the city, often in quiet neighborhoods.

HOTEL PRICES

Considering the comfort and high level of service, hotel prices in San Francisco are generally quite reasonable, particularly in comparison with Europe or New York. Average room rates are $160–$175 a night, though this depends on when and where you stay. See *Special Rates (p208)* for details of any discounts or packages that might be available.

Single travelers receive only a small discount, if any, and most hotels charge visitors $10 to $15 a night for each additional person (in addition to the standard two) in the same room. For details on traveling with children, see page 209.

CHAIN HOTELS

You can count on good service, moderate prices, and comfortable surroundings at a chain hotel. The popular chains include the Westin, Hilton, Sheraton, Marriott, Ramada, Hyatt, and Holiday Inn. Some of these chains operate more than one hotel and designate one location as the flagship facility.

Westin St. Francis Hotel *(see p216)*

All chain hotels have Internet websites, or you can call the hotel's toll-free number to ask about rates and availability.

BED AND BREAKFAST

A notable alternative to the large city center hotels are the many fine establishments that offer bed-and-breakfast accommodations. These are often found in some of the city's extensive stock of well-preserved 19th-century houses. In San Francisco they are often referred to as bed-and-breakfast "inns"; they are unique to the city, varying from quaint, country-style cottages to converted hilltop mansions. They should not be confused with the European tradition of bed-and-breakfast accommodations, where you rent a room from a private individual in their own home and are also given breakfast. Some inns are very luxurious, and rival the city's best hotels for comfort. They vary in size,

The Room of the Dons at the Mark Hopkins Hotel *(see p213)*

◁ **The Garden Court at the Sheraton Palace Hotel** from a few to no more than 30 rooms, and are generally cozier in atmosphere and decor than a normal hotel. All rates include breakfast, and sometimes a glass of wine in the afternoon.

HIDDEN EXTRAS

Room rates are generally quoted exclusive of room tax, which adds an additional 14 to 15 percent to the bill. No sales tax is levied. However, added fees are often charged for phone calls. Local calls, including access calls to toll-free services, can cost up to $1 each. Long-distance calls can cost as much as five times more than they would from a private phone. Wi-Fi access can also carry a fee, generally from $15 a day, so be sure to inquire before using the Internet. The sending or receiving of faxes costs around $2 to $3 a page, plus any phone charges.

Parking at a city center hotel can add at least $20 a day to the bill, plus a tip for the attendant, but motels will usually have free parking. Some rooms come with stocked mini bars but you will be charged substantially for anything you eat or drink – as much as $5 for a candy bar. Prices for these will be prominently displayed.

A tip of $1 for each bag is usually paid to porters for carrying luggage to or from rooms. Room service waiters expect a tip of 15 percent of the bill, rounded up to the next full dollar and paid in cash. Visitors who stay more than a day or two may also want to leave the housekeeping staff a $5 to $10 tip next to the bed.

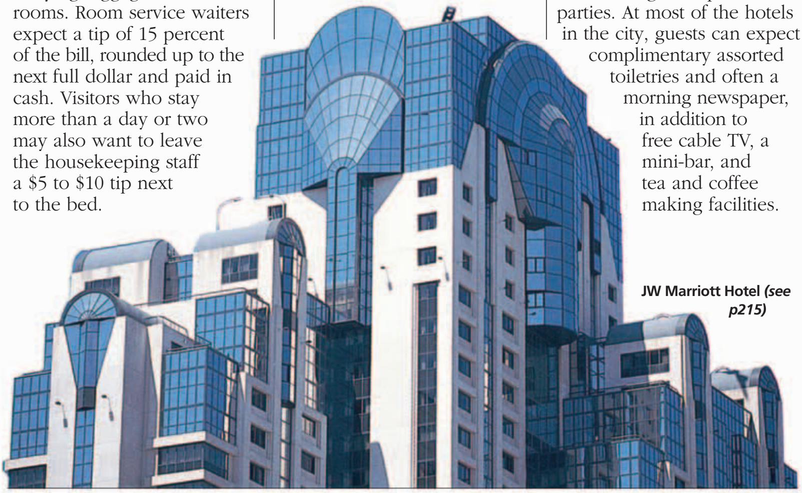
The luxurious lobby of the Fairmont Hotel *(see p213)*

FACILITIES

It is usually possible to gauge a hotel's ambience simply by setting foot in the lobby. Some of the luxury hotels, such as the Hyatt Regency with its impressive 20-story atrium or the plushly appointed Fairmont *(see p213)*, are famous landmarks, which adds to the glamour of your stay in them. Also, most of the better establishments have excellent restaurants where hotel guests are often given preferential treatment.

Some hotels have a piano bar or nightclub on the premises, enabling visitors to enjoy a night on the town without having to set foot outside. See *Entertainment* on pages 268–9 for details.

The convention trade is an important part of the business of San Francisco's hotels, and many provide conference facilities where everything from business meetings to political jamborees are held. Some of the older establishments have large ballrooms, available for weddings and private parties. At most of the hotels in the city, guests can expect complimentary assorted toiletries and often a morning newspaper, in addition to free cable TV, a mini-bar, and tea and coffee making facilities.



JW Marriott Hotel *(see p215)*

HOW TO BOOK

Travelers should reserve rooms at least one month in advance during peak season which runs from July through October. Telephone bookings are accepted with a credit card, but a deposit of one night's room rate will usually be required. It is a good idea to give advance notice if you think you will be arriving later than 6pm. There is no official reservation agency but hotels may be booked via the web site (www.sfvisitor.org) of the Visitor Information Center *(see p278)*. Many hotels are listed in the center's free *Visitor Planning Guide*. Some agencies will book rooms for visitors. They do not charge for this, and can often get you discount rates.

SPECIAL RATES

It is always worthwhile to ask hotel reservation agents about any special discounts that might be available, in particular during the off-peak months between November and March. It is also useful to ask for discounts when booking weekend visits, as many hotels that usually cater to the business traveler will cut their rates for families. Some may also provide special offers, such as a free bottle of champagne or lower-price meals, with the aim to gain the patronage of those who travel for pleasure.

Reservation services do not usually charge a fee as they receive a commission from the individual hotels, and some will offer discounted rates. A good travel agent can save its clients 10 to 20 percent of the standard nightly charge of many hotels. It is worth checking some package tours, such as those advertised in the Sunday paper, as they can offer significant savings for travelers. Many airlines also offer discounts as an incentive to those who reserve a room through them. If you are a member of a frequent-flyer program, you may be able to save as much as 50 percent off the normal rates when booking in an affiliated hotel, and also earn extra mileage for each night of your visit.

The Huntington Hotel *(see p213)*

Bathroom toy at Hotel Triton

DISABLED TRAVELERS

All hotels in the United States are required by law to provide the disabled with accommodations, as is stated in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992. Older properties are exempt from this, but most of San Francisco's hotels comply with the act and provide at

DIRECTORY

RESERVATION AGENCIES

Advanced Reservation Systems (ARES)
3750 Convoy St,
Suite 312, San Diego,
CA 92111.
Tel *(858) 430-4875.*
www.aresdirect.com

Hotels.Com
8140 Walnut Hill Lane,
Suite 203, Dallas, TX
75231. ***Tel*** *(214) 361-7311* or *(1) (800) 246-8357.* **www**.hotels.com

San Francisco Reservations
360 22nd St, Suite 300,
Oakland, CA 94612.
Tel *(510) 628-4450* or
(1) (800) 677-1500.
www.hotelres.com

YOUTH AND BUDGET ACCOMMODATIONS

Hosteling International: City Center
685 Ellis St, SF, CA 94109.
Map 5 A5. ***Tel*** *474-5721.*

Downtown
312 Mason St, SF, CA
94102. **Map** 5 B5.
Tel *788-5604.*

Fisherman's Wharf
Bldg 240, Upper Fort
Mason, SF, CA 94123.
Map 4 E1. ***Tel*** *771-7277.*

Hotel Herbert
161 Powell St, SF, CA
94102. **Map** 5 B5.
Tel *362-1600.*

Pacific Tradewinds Hostel
680 Sacramento St, SF,
CA 94111. **Map** 5 C4.
Tel *433-7970.*

GAY AND LESBIAN ACCOMMODATIONS

Chateau Tivoli
1057 Steiner St, SF, CA
94115. **Map** 10 D1.
Tel *776-5462.*
www.chateautivoli.com

Inn on Castro
321 Castro St, SF, CA
94114. **Map** 10 D2.
Tel *861-0321.*
www.innoncastro.com

The Willows Inn
710 14th St, SF, CA 94114.
Map 10 E2. ***Tel*** *431-4770.*
www.willowssf.com

FURNISHED APARTMENTS

AMSI
2800 Van Ness, SF, CA
94109. ***Tel*** *447-2000* or
(1) (800) 747-7784.
www.amsires.com

Executive Suites
1388 Sutter St, #904,
SF, CA 94109.
Tel *776-5151.* **www**.executivesuites-sf.com

Grosvenor Suites
899 Pine St, SF, CA 94108.
Tel *421-1899* or *(1) (800) 999-9189.* **www**.grosvenorsuites.sf.com

ROOMS IN PRIVATE HOMES

Bed and Breakfast San Francisco
PO Box 420009, SF, CA
94142. ***Tel*** *899-0060.*
www.bbsf.com

California Association of Bed and Breakfast Inns
414 29th St,
Sacramento, CA 95816.
Tel *(1) (800) 373-9251.*
www.cabbi.com

least one room suitable for guests who are wheelchair-bound. You will find that staff in most establishments will do all they can to assist anyone handicapped, but if you do have special needs, it is advisable to inform the manager of the hotel when you reserve your room. All the accommodations listed in *Choosing a Hotel* on pages 210–221 allow those who are visually handicapped to bring guide dogs onto the premises. More information for travelers with special needs can be found on page 280, under *Practical Information*.

GAY AND LESBIAN ACCOMMODATIONS

Though all the hotels in San Francisco welcome lesbian and gay visitors, the city also has a number of places that cater primarily, if not exclusively, to same-sex couples. Most of these are smaller properties, which are found in and around the city's predominantly gay Castro District. A few options are listed in the directory box on page 208, and gay bookstores can also provide more information.

TRAVELING WITH CHILDREN

Children are welcome at all San Francisco hotels, and few will charge extra for one or two children under 12 staying in their parents' room. It is a good idea, however, to let staff at the hotel know you are traveling with children, because not all rooms are suitable. Some hotels may provide you with a sofa that can be converted into an extra bed or alternatively may be able to set up a cot or a folding bed for an additional $10 to $15 a night. The hotel recommendations in our listings *(see pp210–21)* point out whether particular hotels offer children's facilities. Many families prefer to take rooms in an all-suite hotel, or rent a furnished apartment for extra space.

YOUTH AND BUDGET ACCOMMODATIONS

San Francisco boasts many youth hostels. These offer bunks in dormitories plus some private rooms, at affordable prices for travelers who are on a tighter budget. One of the best in the city is **Hosteling International, Fisherman's Wharf**, which is located in the old US Army barracks at Fort Mason. There are other hostels located near Union Square and at Ellis Street. The establishments are run by **Hosteling International**, a nonprofit organization, and both offer beds for around $25 a night. There are also several privately run hostels in the city. Budget hotels include the **Pacific Tradewinds Hostel** and **Hotel Herbert**.

Guests at the Campton Place Hotel *(see p214)*

FURNISHED APARTMENTS

Renting self-contained accomodations in furnished apartments can sometimes be a good alternative to staying in a hotel, especially for family groups seeking more space and catering facilities, or visitors who plan to remain in the city for more than a few days. The drawbacks to renting apartments are that there are only a few available in the city, and they tend to be rented for full weeks only. The cost is around $500 to $800 per week. For information on renting apartments, see agencies such as **AMSI**, **Executive Suites** and **Grosvenor Suites**.

ROOMS IN PRIVATE HOMES

Some travelers may prefer European-style bed-and-breakfast accommodations in a private house. Rooms are rented out by a resident owner in his or her own home, and breakfast is always provided. Deposits may be requested and cancellation fees imposed so enquire when you book. There may also be a minimum stay period. If you do opt to stay in a private house, keep in mind that owners will expect guests to be quiet and considerate. For more details contact the special rental agencies, such as **Bed and Breakfast San Francisco** or the **California Association of Bed and Breakfast Inns**.

Choosing a Hotel

The choice of hotels selected in this guide is based on quality of accommodation and service as well as location. They are listed by area and within these by price, both for central San Francisco and the surrounding areas. Map references refer to the Street Finder, pages 302–312.

PRICE CATEGORIES
For a standard double room per night, including breakfast, service charges and any additional taxes:

$ under $100
$$ $100–$150
$$$ $150–$200
$$$$ over $200

PACIFIC HEIGHTS AND THE MARINA

Broadway Manor Inn P 🍴 🚸 $
2201 Van Ness Ave, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 776-7900* ***Fax*** *(415) 928-7460* ***Rooms*** *56* ***Map*** *4 F3*

Located within walking distance of the Marina District and Fisherman's Wharf, Broadway Manor Inn is great value for tourists on a budget. The rooms are basic, but clean, and some have wireless Internet access, which is also available in the lobby. Guest rooms also have microwaves and refrigerators. **www.broadwaymanor.com**

Coventry Motor Inn P 🚸 ♿ $
1901 Lombard Street, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 567-1200* ***Fax*** *(415) 921-8745* ***Rooms*** *69* ***Map*** *4 D2*

Spacious accommodation is not easy to find in San Francisco, but the Coventry Motor Inn has it, and at a bargain price too. The rooms are clean and comfortable, parking is free, and the location in the heart of the Marina District cannot be beaten. **www.coventrymotorinn.com**

Heritage Marina Hotel ⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🚸 🏋 $
2550 Van Ness Ave, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 776-7500* ***Fax*** *(415) 441-7675* ***Rooms*** *134* ***Map*** *4 E2*

Conveniently located near the Marina and all local tourist spots. It's ideal for the budget traveler looking for no-frills accommodation and every room has a microwave. Rates include a deluxe Continental breakfast and there's an on-site Italian-style eatery. **www.heritagemarinahotel.com**

The Greenwich Inn P 🚸 $
3201 Steiner, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 921-5162* ***Fax*** *(415) 921-3602* ***Rooms*** *32* ***Map*** *4 D2*

The Greenwich Inn is a basic and affordable option for travelers wishing to stay close to San Francisco's Marina District and Presidio Park. The rooms are comfortable and the staff is friendly. Countless restaurants and shops are within easy walking distance. **www.greenwichinn.com**

Cow Hollow Motor Inn P 🚸 $$
2190 Lombard St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 921-5800* ***Fax*** *(415) 922-8515* ***Rooms*** *129* ***Map*** *4 D2*

This hotel is situated between the fashionable Cow Hollow and Marina Districts of San Francisco, famous for world-class dining and shopping. The rooms here are simple and families traveling with children may enjoy the option to stay in one of the 12 guest suites. **www.cowhollowmotorinn.com**

Marina Inn ⇅ $$
3110 Octavia St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 928-1000* ***Fax*** *(415) 928-5909* ***Rooms*** *40* ***Map*** *4 E2*

Well located two blocks from Fort Mason and its grassy park, this low-priced Marina District hotel has stunning views of the Bay. It is clean and the staff is friendly, though street noise from Lombard Street can be obtrusive. It is convenient for the Union Street shops and restaurants. **www.marinainn.com**

Motel Capri ⇅ P $$
2015 Greenwich St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 346-4667* ***Fax*** *(415) 346-3256* ***Rooms*** *46* ***Map*** *4 D2*

This clean and comfortable family-owned motel is a good choice for budget-minded travelers. It is situated in a quiet residential street at the center of the Marina District. Two kitchenettes are also available. This hotel is close to public transportation, and provides free on-site parking. **www.motelcaprica.com**

Pacific Heights Inn P 🚸 $$
1555 Union St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 776-3310* ***Fax*** *(415) 776-8176* ***Rooms*** *40* ***Map*** *4 E2*

This pleasant, 1960s-era motel is on a quiet block of Union Street, just west of Van Ness Avenue. It is convenient for public transportation and has free on-site parking for guests with their own cars. The restaurants, shops, and bars of the energetic Cow Hollow neighborhood are just a few blocks away. **www.pacificheightsinn.com**

Chateau Tivoli Bed and Breakfast P $$$
1057 Steiner St, 94115 ***Tel*** *(415) 776-5462* ***Fax*** *(415) 776-0505* ***Rooms*** *9* ***Map*** *4 D4*

One of San Francisco's "painted ladies," this Victorian house was the center of the 1970s New Age Movement, marked by rebirthing and nude communal bathing. A gay-friendly establishment, it has since been restored to its original splendor with frescoed ceilings, stained-glass windows and several antiques. **www.chateautivoli.com**

Key to Symbols *see back cover flap*

Edward II Inn and Suites P $$$

3155 Scott St, 94123 **Tel** *(415) 922-3000* **Fax** *(415) 931-5784* **Rooms** *32* **Map** *3 C2*

Edward II Inn and Suites is a real find for those looking for a quiet place in a convenient location. The house, built in 1914, is now a three-story inn, a few blocks from San Francisco's Yacht Harbor. Some of the suites have Jacuzzis and they offer a complimentary Continental breakfast. **www.edwardii.com**

Hotel del Sol ⇅ P ≋ 🚸 $$$

3100 Webster St, 94123 **Tel** *(415) 921-5520* **Fax** *(415) 931-4137* **Rooms** *57* **Map** *4 D2*

Celebrating California's culture, this boutique hotel features a playful design with palm trees, hammocks, mosaics, and a pool. The rooms are bright and spacious with rainbow-colored bedspreads. There are also 10 themed suites. The family suite has bunk beds, board games, toys, and child-friendly furnishings. **www.jdvhotels.com/del_sol**

Laurel Inn ⇅ P 🚸 $$$

444 Presidio Ave, 94115 **Tel** *(415) 567-8467* **Fax** *(415) 928-1866* **Rooms** *49* **Map** *3 C4*

This quiet, stylish boutique hotel features a hip mid-20th-century style. The comfortable, brightly colored guest rooms come with CD players, DVD players, and tables. Complimentary Continental breakfast is provided. The hotel's trendy Swank Bar is great for a pre-dinner drink. **www.laurelinn.com**

Queen Anne Hotel P 🍸 $$$

1590 Sutter St, 94109 **Tel** *(415) 441-2828* **Fax** *(415) 775-5212* **Rooms** *48* **Map** *4 E4*

The Queen Anne is a beautiful Victorian hotel, built in 1890. Each room is done up differently with antique furniture and authentic decorations. Room rates include Continental breakfast; wine, coffee, and tea in the evenings; and a weekday neighborhood towncar shuttle. **www.queenanne.com**

The Hotel Majestic ⇅ P 🍴 $$$

1500 Sutter St, 94109 **Tel** *(415) 441-1100* **Fax** *(415) 673-7331* **Rooms** *56* **Map** *4 E4*

One of the few top-notch San Francisco hotels to have survived the 1906 earthquake, the Majestic is an exquisite early 20th-century building in a quiet neighborhood between Pacific Heights and Civic Center. Antique furniture graces the rooms, most of which have canopied beds and open fireplaces. **www.thehotelmajestic.com**

Hotel Drisco 🍸 $$$$

2901 Pacific Ave, 94115 **Tel** *(415) 346-2880* **Fax** *(415) 567-5537* **Rooms** *48* **Map** *3 C3*

Perched at the top of the glamorous Pacific Heights neighborhood, Hotel Drisco offers stately accomodation, perfect for business travelers and tourists. Many of the guest rooms feature spectacular views of the San Francisco Bay and Golden Gate Bridge. Complimentary nightly wine service and Continental breakfast. **www.hoteldrisco.com**

Jackson Court $$$$

2198 Jackson St, 94115 **Tel** *(415) 929-7670* **Fax** *(415) 929-1405* **Rooms** *10* **Map** *4 E3*

This beautiful, well-appointed brownstone sits in one of the loveliest neighborhoods of San Francisco. The rooms are simple and elegant, some with fireplaces, all with TV/DVD player combos, hairdryers and phones. A complimentary Continental breakfast is served in the breakfast room. **www.jacksoncourt.com**

Union Street Inn $$$$

2229 Union St, 94123 **Tel** *(415) 346-0424* **Fax** *(415) 922-8046* **Rooms** *6* **Map** *4 D3*

When you check into Union Street Inn, you'll wish you lived here. Each of the spacious guest rooms is tastefully decorated, and the idyllic back garden is the perfect setting to enjoy a complimentary glass of wine at the end of a long day of sightseeing. Two-day minimum stays are required on weekends. **www.unionstreetinn.com**

FISHERMAN'S WHARF AND NORTH BEACH

Best Inn Fisherman's Wharf ⇅ P 🚸 $

2850 Van Ness Ave, 94109 **Tel** *(415) 776-3220* **Fax** *(415) 921-7451* **Rooms** *42* **Map** *4 E2*

This three-story motel, though not an architectural wonder, offers proximity to some of the major sites – Fisherman's Wharf, North Beach, and Chinatown. Clean rooms, equipped with high-speed Internet access, microwaves, and refrigerators make the Best Inn a good choice for budget travelers.

San Remo Hotel $

2237 Mason St, 94133 **Tel** *(415) 776-8688* **Fax** *(415) 776-2811* **Rooms** *64* **Map** *5 B2*

The only budget hotel in the area, San Remo is a well-maintained Italianate building, and one of the first to be constructed following the earthquake and fire of 1906. All the rooms in this non-smoking hotel share bathrooms, with the exception of the rooftop Honeymoon Suite. **www.sanremohotel.com**

Best Western Tuscan Inn ⇅ P 🍴 🚸 $$$

425 Northpoint St, 94133 **Tel** *(415) 561-1100* **Fax** *(415) 771-8309* **Rooms** *220* **Map** *5 B1*

Tuscan Inn is a spacious and stylish hotel in the middle of Fisherman's Wharf. It is a popular spot for business travelers as well as for visiting film and television crews. Children under 18, accompanied by an adult, stay free of charge. Complimentary wine is served every afternoon. **www.tuscaninn.com**

Hotel Boheme
⇅ W $$$

444 Columbus Ave, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 433-9111* ***Fax*** *(415) 362-6292* ***Rooms*** *15* ***Map*** *5 B3*

The stylish and hip Boheme is a homage to the Beat Generation, in the heart of where it all began. Bold color schemes and whimsical touches enhance the hotel's poetic vibe. The rooms are cozy and all are equipped with free Wi-Fi. Located amid the hustle of North Beach, it is close to many great restaurants and bars. **www.hotelboheme.com**

The Wharf Inn
P 🚸 $$$

2601 Mason St, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 673-7411* ***Fax*** *(415) 776-2181* ***Rooms*** *51* ***Map*** *5 B1*

This 1960s-style three-story motel is bright, cheerful, and clean. All the rooms are decorated in bold colors, and many feature couches and small sitting areas. The inn is located directly above the bustling Fisherman's Wharf and offers complimentary parking – a rarity in San Francisco. **www.wharfinn.com**

Argonaut Hotel
P 🚸 🏋 ♿ $$$$

495 Jefferson Street, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 563-0800* ***Fax*** *(415) 563-2800* ***Rooms*** *265* ***Map*** *5 A1*

This historic 1907 San Francisco building is now home to a maritime-themed boutique hotel. The luxury amenities on offer include in-room spa treatments, flat screen TVs, complimentary welcome gifts for children, and an on-site fitness center. Many of the rooms have views of the Golden Gate Bridge and San Francisco Bay. **www.argonauthotel.com**

Courtyard by Marriott Fisherman's Wharf
⇅ P 🍴 🚸 $$$$

580 Beach St, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 775-3800* ***Fax*** *(415) 441-7307* ***Rooms*** *127* ***Map*** *4 F1*

Sitting just one block from Fisherman's Wharf, the Courtyard is great value for its location and amenities. Clean, modern rooms feature high-speed Internet access and are perfect for both vacationing families and business travelers. On-site business meeting facilities are also available. **www.marriott.com**

Hilton Fisherman's Wharf
⇅ P 🚸 🏋 $$$$

2620 Jones St, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 885-4700* ***Fax*** *(415) 771-8945* ***Rooms*** *234* ***Map*** *4 F1*

At the Fisherman's Wharf branch of the Hilton chain, guests pay for an irresistible location in the heart of San Francisco's waterfront tourist area. The lobby is spacious and modern, while the rooms are more traditional. It's a short walk to PIER 39, the Alcatraz ferries, and Fisherman's Wharf. **www.hilton.com**

Hyatt at Fisherman's Wharf
⇅ P ≋ 🏋 $$$$

555 North Point, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 563-1234* ***Fax*** *(415) 486-4444* ***Rooms*** *313* ***Map*** *5 A1*

This Hyatt is more family-oriented than the other Hyatt hotels in San Francisco, though it provides a service of the same quality. Families are offered a discount on the price of their second room, and there is a heated swimming pool. **www.fishermanswharf.hyatt.com**

Marriott Fisherman's Wharf
⇅ P 🍴 🚸 $$$$

1250 Columbus Ave, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 775-7555* ***Fax*** *(415) 474-2099* ***Rooms*** *285* ***Map*** *4 F1*

Poised precisely between Fisherman's Wharf and North Beach, the Marriott offers above-average accommodation in a central location. Many of its rooms are geared specifically toward business travelers, and a complimentary limousine service is offered daily to the Financial District. **www.marriott.com**

Suites at Fisherman's Wharf
⇅ P 🚸 $$$$

2655 Hyde St, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-0200* ***Fax*** *(415) 346-8058* ***Rooms*** *24* ***Map*** *5 A2*

Families and groups tend to stay here, in the city's only all-suite hotel. Business people also come here regularly. Each suite, spacious enough to accommodate four people, has its own kitchen and dining facilities. The hotel is steps away from the Hyde Street cable car. **www.thesuitesatfishermanswharf.com**

Washington Square Inn
P 🚸 $$$$

1660 Stockton St, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 981-4220* ***Fax*** *(415) 397-7242* ***Rooms*** *15* ***Map*** *5 B2*

One of the few hotels in the North Beach area, this is the only one facing Washington Square Park, where you can watch people practicing Tai Chi or strolling around the park. Room rates include a complimentary breakfast, though walking to the famous Mamma's Restaurant, just across the street, is a preferred option. **www.wsisf.com**

CHINATOWN AND NOB HILL

Hotel Astoria
⇅ $$

510 Bush St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 434-8883* ***Fax*** *(415) 434-8919* ***Rooms*** *80* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Travelers on their own get a good deal at the modest Hotel Astoria, where reasonably priced single rooms are available. The hotel is conveniently situated between Chinatown and Union Square, very close to the dramatic Chinatown gates. **www.hotelastoria-sf.com**

Hotel Triton
⇅ 🍴 $$$

342 Grant Ave, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 394-0500* ***Fax*** *(415) 394-0555* ***Rooms*** *140* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Design and media professionals frequent the small but stylish Triton, with a friendly and cheerful ambience. It is just across the street from Chinatown and in the heart of San Francisco's art gallery district. For overseas travelers, foreign newspapers are normally available at the downstairs Café de la Presse. **www.hoteltriton.com**

The Hilton Financial District

P 🚸 🍸 ♿ $$$

750 Kearny Street, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 483-1498* ***Fax*** *(415) 765-7891* ***Rooms*** *547* ***Map*** *5 C3*

Located in the heart of Chinatown, this Hilton hotel has undergone a $55 million renovation, and it shows. The 27-story tower boasts stunning city views and the rooms, while still a little on the small side, are exquisitely equipped for both business travelers and families. **www.hilton.com**

Fairmont Hotel

⇅ P 🍴 🚸 🍸 $$$$

950 Mason St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 772-5000* ***Fax*** *(415) 402-0942* ***Rooms*** *596* ***Map*** *5 B4*

Famous for its gorgeous lobby and opulent public rooms, the Fairmont is the grandest of all the grand hotels at the top of Nob Hill. Reopened in 1907, a year after an earthquake and fire ravaged it, it has been much admired since. The panoramic views are unbeatable. **www.fairmont.com**

Huntington Hotel and Nob Hill Spa

⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🚸 $$$$

1075 California St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 474-5400* ***Fax*** *(415) 474-6227* ***Rooms*** *135* ***Map*** *5 B4*

Built in 1922 as a luxury apartment building, the Huntington was converted into a high-class hotel in 1945. Each of the spacious rooms is individually decorated – many have a wet bar, and some have kitchens. Indulge yourself at the world-famous Nob Hill Spa, located on the upper floors of the hotel. **www.huntingtonhotel.com**

Mark Hopkins Inter-Continental Hotel

⇅ P 🍴 🚸 🍸 $$$$

Number One Nob Hill, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 392-3434* ***Fax*** *(415) 421-3302* ***Rooms*** *380* ***Map*** *5 B4*

Located atop Nob Hill, the Mark Hopkins is a 1926 architectural landmark and one of the finest hotels in San Francisco, rich and lavish in style. The Top of the Mark skylounge, on the 19th floor, offers panoramic views of the city from the peak of Nob Hill. **www.markhopkins.net**

The Ritz-Carlton San Francisco

⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🚸 🍸 $$$$

600 Stockton, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 296-7465* ***Fax*** *(415) 291-0288* ***Rooms*** *336* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Since it opened in 1991, the Ritz-Carlton has been rated one of San Francisco's best hotels. It is housed in an historic Beaux Arts building in an entire block along California Street, near the top of Nob Hill. Service is excellent. There's a four-star dining room, an indoor pool, and fitness center. **www.ritzcarlton.com**

FINANCIAL DISTRICT AND UNION SQUARE

Chancellor Hotel

P 🚸 ♿ 🍸 W $$

433 Powell Street, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 362-2004* ***Fax*** *(415) 362-1403* ***Rooms*** *137* ***Map*** *5 B4*

This boutique hotel bends over backwards to offer extra amenities at a bargain price. It enjoys a great location right in the heart of Union Square and when you're not out exploring you can take advantage of the free Wi-Fi or use of the Club One fitness club. Charming hotel with friendly staff. **www.chancellorhotel.com**

Hotel Bijou

⇅ P 🚸 $$

111 Mason St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-1200* ***Fax*** *(415) 346-3196* ***Rooms*** *65* ***Map*** *5 B5*

Movie buffs will love Hotel Bijou, with its decor themed around San Francisco's cinematic history. Even the guest room draperies are a deep and dramatic burgundy-velvet and a small theater screens double-features daily. The convenient Union Square location and complimentary breakfast round off the charm. **www.hotelbijou.com**

Hotel des Arts

⇅ 🍴 🚸 $$

447 Bush St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 956-3232* ***Fax*** *(415) 956-0399* ***Rooms*** *43* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Hotel des Arts is as much a functioning art gallery as it is a hotel. A portion of the rooms, painted and decorated by a rotating roster of local artists, makes it one of the most unusual places in the city. These rooms may be reserved by phone only. Union Square, Chinatown, and the Financial District are close by. **www.sfhoteldesarts.com**

Hotel Frank

P 🚸 ♿ W $$

386 Geary Street, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 986-2000* ***Fax*** *(415) 397-2447* ***Rooms*** *100* ***Map*** *5 B5*

This hip, boutique hotel offers a lot of pizazz at an affordable price and has a great location near Union Square's shops and restaurants. Fashionistas will love the retro-chic decor and sophisticated feel.For extra amenities, enquire about an upgarde to "The Bold Level". **www.hotelfranksf.com**

Hotel Vertigo

P 🚸 ♿ W $$

940 Sutter Street, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 885-6800* ***Fax*** *(415) 885-2115* ***Rooms*** *102* ***Map*** *5 A4*

Playing homage to the Hitchcock movie that was partly filmed here, this hotel has undergone a wonderful renovation with plush and comfortable rooms that are elegant and whimsical yet contemporary. If you're looking for a little bit of history and fun nostalgia, the Vertigo has it. **www.hotelvertigosf.com**

San Francisco Marriott Union Square

P 🚸 🍸 ♿ W $$

480 Sutter Street, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 398-8900* ***Fax*** *(415) 989-8823* ***Rooms*** *400* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Extensively renovated, this Marriott hotel is located within walking distance of Union Square, the Theater District, and Downtown museums and shops. The hotel has all necessary amenities and is reasonably priced. Guests should note the smoke-free policy and charge for Internet use. **www.marriott.com**

Touchstone Hotel ⇅ 🍴 $$

480 Geary St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-1600* ***Fax*** *(415) 931-5442* ***Rooms*** *40* ***Map*** *5 B5*

Just steps from Union Square, Touchstone Hotel provides a blend of old-world charm and modern convenience. It's a small, intimate bed-and-breakfast inn, owned and managed by the same family for more than 50 years. Some rates include breakfast. **www.thetouchstone.com**

Harbor Court Hotel ⇅ 🏋 $$$

165 Steuart St, 94105 ***Tel*** *(415) 882-1300* ***Fax*** *(415) 882-1313* ***Rooms*** *131* ***Map*** *6 E4*

Housed in what was originally a YMCA building, the Harbor Court is the only hotel in San Francisco with a location right on the waterfront. Rooms are on the small side, though some have good views of the Bay Bridge. Guests have free access to the fitness facilities of the Y gym next door. **www.harborcourthotel.com**

Hotel Diva ⇅ P 🍴 🚸 $$$

440 Geary St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 885-0200* ***Fax*** *(415) 346-6613* ***Rooms*** *114* ***Map*** *5 B5*

Stepping into Hotel Diva gives one the impression of having wandered into the Museum of Modern Art. The lobby and rooms are whimsically and colorfully decorated and accented by many architectural touches. The tone is hip luxury and the rooms won't disappoint even the most style-conscious traveler. **www.hoteldiva.com**

Hotel Union Square P $$$

114 Powell St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 397-3000* ***Fax*** *(415) 399-1874* ***Rooms*** *131* ***Map*** *5 C5*

Conveniently located two blocks from Union Square, this chic boutique hotel is ideal for those looking for good value in the heart of San Francisco's shopping hub. Rooms are small and purpose-built, but amenities include fee-based wireless Internet access in the lobby and on-site currency exchange. **www.hotelunionsquare.com**

Kensington Park Hotel ⇅ P 🚸 $$$

450 Post St, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 788-6400* ***Fax*** *(415) 399-9484* ***Rooms*** *86* ***Map*** *5 B5*

Located in the 1920s Spanish Revivalist-style Elks Lodge building, the Kensington Park is a comfortable, medium-sized hotel close to Union Square. The lobby is gorgeous and the nicely furnished rooms are spacious. The reasonable rate includes coffee, tea, and afternoon wine. **www.kensingtonparkhotel.com**

Le Meridien P 🚸 🏋 ♿ $$$

333 Battery Street, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 296-2900* ***Fax*** *(415) 296-2901* ***Rooms*** *360* ***Map*** *6 D3*

A luxurious experience awaits at this prime-location hotel, right next to the Embarcadero Center shops. The decor is modern and sleek, the rooms boast comfortable beds with down duvets and 300-thread-count Frette sheets and robes are provided. Room service is available 24 hours a day. **www.starwoodhotels.com/lemeridien**

Nob Hill Motor Inn ⇅ P $$$

1630 Pacific Ave, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 775-8160* ***Fax*** *(415) 673-8842* ***Rooms*** *29* ***Map*** *4 F3*

This is a standard, modern motel which is clean and efficiently run. It is centrally located close to dozens of interesting shops and local eateries, and within reasonable walking distance of Fisherman's Wharf and North Beach. **www.staysf.com**

Renaissance Parc Fifty Five Hotel ⇅ P 🍴 🚸 🏋 $$$

55 Cyril Magnin St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 392-8000* ***Fax*** *(415) 403-6602* ***Rooms*** *1010* ***Map*** *5 C5*

The huge Parc Fifty Five, just off Market and Powell Streets, caters to conventions and large groups. There are good views from the upper floors. Rates are high, but special bed-and-breakfast and weekend offers make it worth considering. **www.parc55hotel.com**

San Francisco Hilton ⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🚸 🏋 $$$

333 O'Farrell St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-1400* ***Fax*** *(415) 771-6807* ***Rooms*** *2044* ***Map*** *5 B5*

Filling an entire block just west of Union Square, the city's largest hotel provides excellent views from its 46-story tower. The service, too, matches the establishment's grand scale. The numerous facilities include an outdoor swimming pool, five restaurants, two bars, a barber shop, and a steam room. **www.hilton.com**

Serrano Hotel ⇅ P 🍴 🚸 🏋 $$$

405 Taylor St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 885-2500* ***Fax*** *(415) 474-4879* ***Rooms*** *236* ***Map*** *5 B5*

This 17-story Spanish-Revivalist-style hotel has convenient access to both Union Square and the Theatre District. Guest rooms feature high ceilings and are accented by characteristic Moroccan-influenced design. The appealing Ponzu restaurant is located on the lobby level. **www.serranohotel.com**

Campton Place Hotel ⇅ P 🍴 $$$$

340 Stockton St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 781-5555* ***Fax*** *(415) 955-5536* ***Rooms*** *110* ***Map*** *5 C4*

The small and elegant Campton Place is situated just off Union Square. It offers plush, well-appointed rooms, good service, and sumptuous public areas. Particulary appealing is the intimate bar off the lobby. Guests can choose between dinner on the roof terrace, or in the deluxe Campton Place Restaurant. **www.camptonplace.com**

Clift Hotel ⇅ P 🍴 🚸 🏋 $$$$

495 Geary St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 775-4700* ***Fax*** *(415) 441-4621* ***Rooms*** *373* ***Map*** *5 B5*

The dramatic Clift is a striking example of modern design, with a lobby created by Phillippe Starck. Each room is elegantly furnished with all the amenities one would expect from a hotel of this caliber. The downstairs Redwood Room and award-winning Velvet Room Restaurant are enchanting. **www.clifthotel.com**

Four Seasons $$$$

757 Market St, 94103 ***Tel*** *(415) 633-3000* ***Fax*** *(415) 633-3001* ***Rooms*** *277* ***Map*** *5 C5*

Four Seasons is one of San Francisco's classiest hotels. Spacious and understatedly stylish, each room has cozy sitting areas. The ultra-chic Sports Club/LA is available for guest use. This hotel provides easy access to Union Square, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and Yerba Buena Center. **www.fourseasons.com**

Grand Hyatt San Francisco $$$$

345 Stockton St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 398-1234* ***Fax*** *(415) 391-1780* ***Rooms*** *680* ***Map*** *5 C4*

The 36-story Grand Hyatt towers over the north side of Union Square, offering great views from all of its rooms. The rooftop Grand View restaurant has live piano music on Friday and Saturday evenings. The location is handy for the Financial District as well as for Union Square shops and theaters. **www.grandsanfrancisco.hyatt.com**

Hotel Monaco $$$$

501 Geary St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(866) 622-5284* ***Fax*** *(415) 292-0111* ***Rooms*** *201* ***Map*** *5 B5*

Funky and charming, the Monaco is a few blocks west of Union Square. The guest rooms – a study in pattern and texture – feature many luxurious extras, such as Frette robes, down pillows, and fax machines. The Grand Café is set in a spectacular turn-of-the-19th-century ballroom downstairs. **www.monaco-sf.com**

Hotel Nikko $$$$

222 Mason St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 394-1111* ***Fax*** *(415) 394-1106* ***Rooms*** *534* ***Map*** *5 B5*

The ultra-modern Nikko caters primarily to business travelers, especially those from Japan. The hotel's excellent fitness center, with its glass-enclosed swimming pool and full range of exercise equipment, is among the best in the city. The lobby-level Anzu restaurant is perfect for drinking and dining. **www.hotelnikkosf.com**

Hotel Rex $$$$

562 Sutter St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 433-4434* ***Fax*** *(415) 433-3695* ***Rooms*** *94* ***Map*** *5 B4*

This pleasant hotel has with rooms painted in rich colors and the walls embellished with the works of local artists. A real gem – and the pride of the Rex – the downstairs lobby has a dark-hued and cozy library. The lobby bar often hosts literary events and readings. **www.jdvhospitality.com**

Hotel Vitale $$$$

8 Mission St, 94105 ***Tel*** *(415) 278-3700* ***Fax*** *(415) 278-3750* ***Rooms*** *199* ***Map*** *6 E4*

The flamboyant Hotel Vitale is possibly the grandest offering from the JDV Hospitality Group. Situated along the Embarcadero, it has all the advantages of a destination resort, in the heart of the city. The guest rooms boast every amenity and Spa Vitale has stunning views. **www.jdvhospitality.com**

Hyatt Regency San Francisco $$$$

5 Embarcadero Center, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 788-1234* ***Fax*** *(415) 398-2567* ***Rooms*** *805* ***Map*** *6 D3*

The Hyatt, built in 1973 around a 15-story atrium lobby, has had its rooms largely upgraded. Designated mainly for business travelers, the Regency Club floor has a full-time attendant, always on call. This hotel is located next to a small shopping center and theater complex. **www.sanfranciscoregency.hyatt.com**

JW Marriott $$$$

500 Post St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-8600* ***Fax*** *(415) 398-0267* ***Rooms*** *338* ***Map*** *5 B5*

John Portman was the architect of this beautifully appointed, daringly designed modern hotel. Formerly the Pan Pacific Hotel, it has an atrium lobby 17 stories high, rising to a rooftop skylight. The public areas are glamorous, and the bedrooms refined and elegant. Business travelers will find the staff extremely helpful. **www.jwmarriottunionsquare.com**

Mandarin Oriental $$$$

222 Sansome St, 94104 ***Tel*** *(415) 276-9888* ***Fax*** *(415) 433-0289* ***Rooms*** *158* ***Map*** *6 D3*

Particularly convenient for business travelers, Mandarin Oriental is first class in every respect. The Mandarin Rooms have floor-to-ceiling windows, offering magnificent views of San Francisco Bay and the Golden Gate Bridge. Another attraction is the excellent restaurant, Silks, located on the second floor. **www.mandarinoriental.com**

Prescott Hotel $$$$

545 Post St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 563-0303* ***Fax*** *(415) 563-6831* ***Rooms*** *164* ***Map*** *5 B5*

Business travelers predominate at this sumptuous hotel that resembles a gentleman's club, with dark wooden walls and a large fireplace in the entrance lobby. Complimentary drinks are served in the afternoons. Postrio Restaurant is a little past its prime, but still serves consistent food in an elegant ambience. **www.prescotthotel.com**

San Francisco Marriott Marquis $$$$

55 Fourth St, 94103 ***Tel*** *(415) 896-1600* ***Fax*** *(415) 486-8101* ***Rooms*** *1500* ***Map*** *5 C5*

Someone may like the futuristic look of this 39-story tower, but no one in San Francisco has dared to say so. However, the hotel has proved a popular spot for conventions. Families always appreciate the indoor pool and the fact that children under 18, when accompanied by an adult, can stay there free. **www.sfmarriott.com**

Sheraton Palace Hotel $$$$

2 New Montgomery St, 94105 ***Tel*** *(415) 512-1111* ***Fax*** *(415) 543-0671* ***Rooms*** *550* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Early in the 20th century the Palace was one of the most famous hotels in the world, hosting royalty and heads of state, including President Harding, who died here in his sleep in 1923. Renovated in the late 1980s, it is now known for its glamorous Garden Court, where afternoon tea is served. **www.sfpalace.com**

Sir Francis Drake Hotel

$$$$

450 Powell St, 94102 **Tel** *(415) 392-7755* **Fax** *(415) 391-8719* **Rooms** *417* **Map** *5 B4*

A long-established Union Square hotel, the Sir Francis Drake glows in Art Deco splendor. It is famed for its Beefeater-uniformed doormen and Harry Denton's Starlight Room, a beautiful rooftop bar. The location, on the Powell Street cable car line, is unbeatable for access to the Financial District and North Beach. **www.sirfrancisdrake.com**

The Westin San Francisco Market Street

P $$$$

50 Third Street, 94103 **Tel** *(415) 974-6400* **Fax** *(415) 543-8268* **Rooms** *667* **Map** *5 C5*

The hotel offers a great location from which to enjoy all Union Square has to offer. The rooms here are clean and spacious and, of course, have the signature Westin "heavenly beds" which are very comfortable. A 24-hour fitness facility is another huge plus. **www.westinsf.com**

Westin St. Francis

P $$$$

335 Powell St, 94102 **Tel** *(415) 397-7000* **Fax** *(415) 774-0124* **Rooms** *1200* **Map** *5 B4*

Since 1904, Union Square's skyline has been defined by the triple towers of Westin St. Francis. Following earthquake and fire damage in 1906, the hotel was restored. In the 1970s, a 32-story tower was added onto the back. The best rooms have views of Union Square and the Michael Minna restaurant is one of the city's best. **www.westinstfrancis.com**

White Swan Inn

$$$$

845 Bush St, 94108 **Tel** *(415) 775-1755* **Fax** *(415) 775-5717* **Rooms** *26* **Map** *5 B4*

A small, country-style establishment, the White Swan has rooms with bright floral prints and comfortable beds. A complimentary English breakfast is served each morning, and wine and *hors d'oeuvres* are served every evening. The inn also runs complimentary introductory tours of the city. **www.whiteswaninnsf.com**

CIVIC CENTER

Embassy Hotel

P $

610 Polk Street, 94102 **Tel** *(415) 673-1404* **Fax** *(415) 474-4188* **Rooms** *84* **Map** *4 F5*

Housed in a unique 1932 Art Deco building, the Embassy Hotel offers sizeable, comfortable rooms at a good price. The hotel is within easy walking distance of the Opera House, Symphony Hall, and state and federal buildings. A great place for someone on a budget. Breakfast is Continental. **www.theembassyhotelsf.com**

Best Western Americania

P $$

121 7th St, 94105 **Tel** *(415) 626-0200* **Fax** *(415) 863-2529* **Rooms** *143* **Map** *11 A1*

Though technically in the trendy South of Market neighborhood of San Francisco, the Americania is a short walk from Union Square. The modern, spacious, and comfortable facilities are a refreshing contrast to the buzz of the city. Free Internet access is available. **www.theamericania.com**

Grove Inn

$$

890 Grove St, 94117 **Tel** *(415) 929-0780* **Fax** *(415) 929-1037* **Rooms** *18* **Map** *4 E5*

Grove Inn, an Italianate-Victorian bed-and-breakfast, with a good location near Civic Center, dates to the late 1800s. The multilingual hosts have been running the place for over 25 years. The sunny rooms come with a queen-sized bed and direct dial phones. Rates include a complimentary Continental breakfast. **www.grovinn.com**

Hotel Kabuki

P $$

1625 Post Street, 94115 **Tel** *(415) 922-3200* **Fax** *(415) 614-5498* **Rooms** *218* **Map** *4 E4*

The complimentary "welcome tea" service is a delightful treat at this Japanese-style hotel. Hotel Kabuki offers a calm and serene experience, complete with traditional, Japanese-style soaking tubs and a free pass for the Kabuki Springs and Spa. Rooms are cozy, peaceful, and clean. A great place to relax. **www.jdvhotels.com/kabuki**

Hotel Tomo

P $$

1800 Sutter Street, 94115 **Tel** *(415) 921-4000* **Fax** *(415) 923-1064* **Rooms** *125* **Map** *4 E4*

A complete Japanese experience in the heart of Japantown. Inspired by Japanese pop culture, rooms are decorated with Japanese animation (anime) and pop art, and there are gaming suites with PS3 and Wii. Cozy and clean, with all-you-can-eat *shabu shabu* (meat and vegetable hot pot) in the first-floor restaurant. **www.jdvhotels.com/tomo**

Monarch Hotel

P $$

1015 Geary St, 94109 **Tel** *(415) 673-5232* **Fax** *(415) 885-2802* **Rooms** *101* **Map** *4 F4*

The Monarch is preferred by budget travelers looking for basic amenities and a central San Francisco location. All rooms have cable TV and safe-deposit boxes, some have refrigerators. Coffee is served throughout the day in the lobby and parking is available at an additional cost. **www.themonarchhotel.com**

Phoenix Hotel

P $$

601 Eddy St, 94109 **Tel** *(415) 776-1380* **Fax** *(415) 885-3109* **Rooms** *44* **Map** *4 F4*

This funky two-story motel, in the heart of the Tenderloin District, conjures up images of old Route 66. Grab a drink at the house bar, Bambuddha, and head out to the courtyard pool to spot celebrities (past guests include Dave Navarro and Linda Ronstadt). The rooms are basic but great value for a central location. **www.jdvhospitality.com**

Renoir Hotel

$$

45 McAllister St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 626-5200* ***Fax*** *(415) 626-5581* ***Rooms*** *133* ***Map*** *11 A1*

Built in 1909, the dramatically ornate Renoir is a historic landmark. With a thoroughly updated interior, the hotel provides rooms with many modern amenities, including wireless high-speed Internet access (for a fee). Children under the age of 12 stay for free. **www.renoirhotel.com**

Best Western Carriage Inn

P $$$

140 7th St, 94103 ***Tel*** *(415) 552-8600* ***Fax*** *(415) 626-3973* ***Rooms*** *48* ***Map*** *11 A1*

In the South of Market district of San Francisco, the Carriage Inn offers great value, combining fair room rates with larger-than-average rooms. An excellent choice for families, as children 17 and under stay free. There is a Jacuzzi in the common patio area, and an adjacent restaurant and bar. **www.bestwestern.com**

Hotel Metropolis

P $$$

25 Mason St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 775-4600* ***Fax*** *(415) 775-4606* ***Rooms*** *110* ***Map*** *5 B5*

A funky boutique hotel, the Metropolis has a nature theme throughout, with each floor reflecting the elements. The Holistic room is perfect for escaping the hustle of nearby Union Square. All rooms offer amenities including bars, two-line phones, and dataports with voicemail. **www.hotelmetropolis.com**

Inn at the Opera

P W $$$

333 Fulton St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 863-8400* ***Rooms*** *48* ***Map*** *4 F5*

The rooms in this Victorian building may be on the small side, but they represent great value, considering they come with kitchenettes, a mini-fridge, complimentary breakfast, free Wi-Fi, and afternoon cookies. The Opera House and Symphony Hall are within walking distance. **www.shellhospitality.com**

Sleep Over Sauce

$$$

135 Gough St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 621-0896* ***Rooms*** *8* ***Map*** *10 F1*

A true urban guest house, this inn feels like neighborhood living in the heart of the city. The living area has comfortable couches, and rooms are cozy and clean, featuring TVs and iPod docking stations. Located in Hayes Valley, there is a good range of shops and restaurants nearby, and the Civic Center is a short walk away. **www.sleepsf.com**

Archbishop's Mansion Inn

$$$$

1000 Fulton St, 94117 ***Tel*** *(415) 563-7872* ***Fax*** *(415) 885-3193* ***Rooms*** *15* ***Map*** *4 D5*

This imposing building, in the style of the Second French Empire, was built in 1904 but has been carefully restored. Inside there is an elaborate three-story open staircase, topped by a stained-glass skylight. All rooms are luxuriously decorated and designed around operatic themes. **www.jdvhospitality.com**

HAIGHT ASHBURY AND THE MISSION

Elements Hotel

$

2524 Mission St, 94110 ***Tel*** *(415) 647-4100* ***Fax*** *(415) 550-9005* ***Rooms*** *26* ***Map*** *9 F3*

This friendly, European-style hostel offers both dormitories and private rooms, right in the heart of San Francisco's Mission District. There is a restaurant and bar downstairs, but perhaps the most enticing aspect of Elements is the roofdeck – complete with sun chairs and a telescope. **www.elementshotel.com**

24 Henry

W $$

24 Henry St, 94114 ***Tel*** *(415) 864-5686* ***Fax*** *(415) 864-0406* ***Rooms*** *5* ***Map*** *9 D2*

In the heart of the Castro District, 24 Henry is a charming bed-and-breakfast that caters to a primarily gay clientele. It enjoys a serene ambience on a quiet, tree-lined street. Facilities include free wireless Internet, complimentary breakfast, and private phones in all rooms. Rates are reasonable. **www.24henry.com**

Beck's Motor Lodge

P $$

2222 Market St, 94114 ***Tel*** *(415) 621-8212* ***Fax*** *(415) 241-0435* ***Rooms*** *58* ***Map*** *10 E1*

Beck's is a standard 1960s motel, convenient for the restaurants and nightlife of the Castro, Lower Haight and Mission Districts. Free parking, cable TV, and a quiet location are its main attractions. There is also a sunny roofdeck, a perfect setting for a glass of wine before heading out for the night. **www.becksmotorlodge.com**

Inn on Castro

P $$

321 Castro St, 94114 ***Tel*** *(415) 861-0321* ***Rooms*** *12* ***Map*** *10 D2*

The Inn on Castro, a fully restored Edwardian, blends old and modern, with eclectic flower bouquets and modern art adorning the traditional interiors. It's perfectly poised in the heart of the Castro District and offers guest suites and self-service apartments. A full organic breakfast is served daily. **www.innoncastro2.com**

Red Victorian Bed and Breakfast

$$

1665 Haight St, 94117 ***Tel*** *(415) 864-1978* ***Fax*** *(415) 863-3293* ***Rooms*** *18* ***Map*** *9 B1*

The Red Victorian is the ubiquitous Haight Street accommodation, perfect for travelers who want to channel San Francisco in the "Summer of Love." All the rooms are individually themed, with names such as Redwood Forest and Flower Child. No radios or TVs are available, but there's a meditation room. **www.redvic.com**

The Inn San Francisco P W $$

943 S. Van Ness Avenue, 94110 ***Tel*** *(415) 641-0188* ***Fax*** *(415) 641-1701* ***Rooms*** *21* ***Map*** *10 F3*

The owner of this 1872 Victorian Mansion will charm you with hospitality. The spacious rooms are individually decorated in Victorian themes. Don't miss sitting out in the English-style garden or relaxing in the redwood hot tub. The breakfast buffet is generous and it is possible to negotiate on room prices. **www.innsf.com**

Willows Bed and Breakfast W $$

710 14th St, 94114 ***Tel*** *(415) 431-4770* ***Fax*** *(415) 431-5295* ***Rooms*** *12* ***Map*** *10 E2*

Built in 1903, the Willows is a European-style, gay and lesbian friendly bed-and-breakfast in the Castro District. Each room comes with a sink, kimono bathrobes, and luxury soaps as well as a TV, DVD player, and wireless Internet access. Eight private water closets are situated adjacent to the rooms. The staff is extremely friendly. **www.willowssf.com**

Edwardian San Francisco Hotel P W $$$

1668 Market St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 864-1271* ***Fax*** *(415) 861-8116* ***Rooms*** *32* ***Map*** *10 F1*

If you like the feel and decor of a European inn, you will love this boutique hotel, with its comfortable and quaint rooms, stocked with fresh flowers, Wi-Fi, private bathrooms, and cable TV. Located close to Union Square, and within easy reach of multiple public transportation options. **www.edwardiansfhotel.com**

Stanyan Park Hotel $$$

750 Stanyan St, 94117 ***Tel*** *(415) 751-1000* ***Fax*** *(415) 668-5454* ***Rooms*** *36* ***Map*** *9 B2*

Doctors, patients, and patients' families often stay in this lovely Queen Anne-style hotel that enjoys a proximity to the San Francisco Medical Center. Opened in 1983 after extensive renovation, the hotel overlooks Golden Gate Park. The rooms are cozy, with fireplaces in many of them, while the ample suites include a full kitchen. **www.stanyanpark.com**

SOUTH OF MARKET

Marriott Courtyard San Francisco Downtown P ♿ $$$

299 Second Street, 94105 ***Tel*** *(415) 947-0700* ***Fax*** *(415) 947-0800* ***Rooms*** *436* ***Map*** *6 D5*

This Marriott hotel offers all the amenities of a luxury hotel without the exorbitant price. It's a great place to stay in the downtown area, especially for those traveling with children, and is conveniently located close to many of the city's museums. **www.courtyardsanfrancisco.com**

Hotel Intercontinental P ♿ W $$$$

888 Howard Street, 94103 ***Tel*** *(888) 811-4273* ***Fax*** *(415) 616-6501* ***Rooms*** *550* ***Map*** *11 B1*

This architectural wonder opened to much fanfare in San Francisco. It boasts an elegant, modern interior with luxurious guest rooms. Situated south of Market Street, the hotel is near museums and the Moscone Center. Spa services are deluxe and the dining is elegant. **www.intercontinentalsanfrancisco.com**

St. Regis Hotel P ♿ $$$$

125 Third Street, 94103 ***Tel*** *(415) 284-4000* ***Fax*** *(415) 284-4100* ***Rooms*** *260* ***Map*** *11 B1*

Directly adjacent to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, this hotel is the true epitome of luxury – their butler service brings "any request and whim to realization." Sample the handmade truffles and champagne while you wait for a spa treatment or dine in Ame, the hotel's excellent restaurant. **www.starwoodhotels.com/stregis**

BERKELEY

The French Hotel P $

1538 Shattuck, Berkeley, 94709 ***Tel*** *(510) 548-9930* ***Fax*** *(510) 548-9930* ***Rooms*** *18*

This quaint and cozy European-style hotel boasts an innately relaxed and social atmosphere. The rooms are small and comfortable – some with views and all with TVs. The downstairs French Hotel Café is a bustling venue, perfect for good coffee, food, and conversation.

Bancroft Hotel P $$

2680 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 94704 ***Tel*** *(510) 549-1000* ***Fax*** *(510) 549-1070* ***Rooms*** *22*

The Bancroft is located directly across the street from the University of California at Berkeley and only a few blocks from the hip Telegraph Avenue. Built in 1928 in the Arts and Crafts design, this hotel offers gracious guest rooms and ample common areas. **www.bancrofthotel.com**

Rose Garden Inn P $$$

2740 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley, 94705 ***Tel*** *(510) 549-2145* ***Fax*** *(510) 549-1085* ***Rooms*** *40*

The appropriately named, turn-of-the-19th-century Rose Garden Inn is an oasis in the heart of urban Berkeley. The enchanting property takes up almost an entire street block with its four buildings and whimsically landscaped gardens. The outdoor patio is perfect for breakfast on warm summer mornings. **www.rosegardeninn.com**

Key to Price Guide *see p210* **Key to Symbols** *see back cover flap*

Claremont Resort, Spa and Tennis Club ⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🏃 🏋 $$$$

41 Tunnel Road, Oakland, 94705 ***Tel*** *(510) 843-3000* ***Fax*** *(510) 848-6208* ***Rooms*** *279*

This stunning hotel is poised at the foot of Berkeley Hills, overlooking much of East Bay and San Francisco. The sprawling grounds offer tennis courts, landscaped gardens, outdoor swimming pool and a world-class spa. Even if you don't stay here, stop by for a drink and to enjoy the views. **www.claremontresort.com**

FARTHER AFIELD

EAST PALO ALTO Four Seasons Palo Alto P 🍴 ≋ 🏃 🏋 ♿ $$$

2050 University Avenue, 94303 ***Tel*** *(650) 566-1200* ***Fax*** *(650) 566-1221* ***Rooms*** *200*

Ten minutes from Stanford University, this luxury hotel offers a unique rooftop pool, relaxing spa and elegant, perfectly appointed rooms. The business elite flock here for its central location near Silicon Valley, but locals love its sophistication and outstanding restaurant. **www.fourseasons.com/siliconvalley**

HALF MOON BAY The Ritz Carlton Half Moon Bay P ≋ 🏃 🏋 ♿ W $$$$

1 Miramontes Point Road, 94019 ***Tel*** *(650) 712-7000* ***Fax*** *(650) 712-7831* ***Rooms*** *261*

This romantic, luxury hotel is perched atop the cliffs of the Pacific Ocean and offers stunning views and world-class service. Enjoy hot chocolate and s'mores by the outdoor fireplaces while watching the sunset, or take a stroll down to the quaint town of Half Moon Bay where there are shops and restaurants. **www.ritzcarlton.com**

MILL VALLEY Mountain Home Inn P 🍴 ♿ $$$

810 Panoramic Highway, 94941 ***Tel*** *(415) 381-9000* ***Fax*** *(415) 381-7544* ***Rooms*** *10*

Perched atop Mount Tam, a popular hiking destination, this B&B offers incredible views of the entire San Francisco Bay from its patio deck. Each of the 10 rooms is cozy, quiet and restful. The hotel restaurant serves local fresh fare. Don't miss exploring the hiking trails or a quick drive over to Muir Woods. **www.mtnhomeinn.com**

POINT REYES Point Reyes Station Inn P W $$

11591 State Route 1 N, 94956 ***Tel*** *(415) 663-9372* ***Fax*** *(415) 663-8842* ***Rooms*** *5*

This charming B&B, in the heart of the coastal town of Point Reyes, has old-world character with modern amenities. The vaulted ceilings, whirpool baths and in-room fireplaces make for a romantic escape. Point Reyes National Seashore boasts magnificent scenery along with boundless outdoor activities. **www.pointreyesstationinn.com**

SAUSALITO Gables Inn Sausalito P 🏃 $$$

62 Princess Street, 94965 ***Tel*** *(415) 289-1100* ***Fax*** *(415) 339-0536* ***Rooms*** *15*

Sausalito's finest historic Inn is the place to stay if you want a romantic escape. The rooms are spacious and the staff friendly and helpful. There is also a complimentary breakfast, and wine and cheese in the evening. The Ferry service to San Francisco is a three-minute walk down the hill. **www.gablesinnsausalito.com**

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

CARMEL Acacia Lodge P ≋ 🏃 $$$

102 West Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley, 93924 ***Tel*** *(831) 659-5361* ***Fax*** *(831) 659-2392* ***Rooms*** *19*

Though not located in the heart of Carmel, this charming property is only a short drive away, in a quiet, peaceful village of its own. The country-style rooms are comfortable, and guests can relax either by the pool or in the flower-filled garden. Free Wi-Fi and on-site parking. **www.countrygardeninns.com**

CARMEL Carmel Wayfarer Inn P 🏃 $$$

4th and Mission St, Carmel-by-the-Sea, 93921 ***Tel*** *(831) 624-2711* ***Fax*** *(831) 625-1210* ***Rooms*** *15*

In the heart of Carmel-by-the-Sea, Carmel Wayfarer is a fair bargain option. The simple, yet tastefully appointed rooms and common areas make this a good choice for travelers who prefer to be within walking distance of the major area sites. A deluxe complimentary Continental breakfast is served daily. **www.carmelwayfarerinn.com**

CARMEL Highlands Inn ⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🏃 🏋 $$$$

120 Highlands Drive, Carmel, 93923 ***Tel*** *(831) 620-1234* ***Fax*** *(831) 626-1574* ***Rooms*** *142*

High on a bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean below, Highlands Inn represents the quintessential Monterey Peninsula drama. Over two-thirds of the rooms are suites or parlors – almost all with their own patios or balconies. Attractions include a heated outdoor pool and panoramic coastal views. **www.highlandsinn.hyatt.com**

CARMEL La Playa Hotel ⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🏃 $$$$

Camino Real at Eigth, Carmel, 93921 ***Tel*** *(831) 624-6476* ***Fax*** *(831) 624-7966* ***Rooms*** *75*

The La Playa feels more like a Mediterranean estate than a standard hotel, with its extensive guest rooms and cottage complexes surrounding a central garden, lawn, and pool. It's a good option for both families with children and couples as some cottages can accommodate up to eight people. **www.laplayahotel.com**

LAKE TAHOE La Porte Cabins P $

La Porte, CA, 95981 ***Tel*** *(530) 675-0850* ***Rooms*** *15*

Situated in the heart of La Porte, this picturesque little conglomeration of rustic cabins reminds one of the California Gold Rush era. Once a booming mine town of 900, it now only has a saloon, post office, and mini mart. Each of these original "China Alley" cabins date back to that time and have since been restored. **www.laportecabins.com**

LAKE TAHOE 3 Peaks Resort and Beach Club P ≋ 🏃 $$

931 Park Ave, Tahoe, 96150 ***Tel*** *(866) 500-4886* ***Rooms*** *54*

The 3 Peaks is one of the better choices on the California side of Lake Tahoe. It offers cabin-style guest rooms and suites – many of which have fully stocked kitchens, perfect for large groups staying together. This hotel is only two blocks away from the Heavenly Ski area. **www.3peakshotel.com**

LAKE TAHOE Christy Inn P 🍴 $$$

1650 Squaw Valley Rd, Olympic Valley, 96146 ***Tel*** *(530) 581-0454* ***Fax*** *(530) 581-5631* ***Rooms*** *6*

Christy Inn is located within the sprawling Squaw Valley, site of the 1960 Winter Olympics. Each of the rustic rooms has its own private bath and spectacular views of the surrounding mountains. It is a popular summer destination as well and hosts many weddings and family reunions each year.

LAKE TAHOE Harrah's Lake Tahoe ⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🏃 🍸 $$$$

Highway 50 at Stateline, Nevada, 89449 ***Tel*** *(775) 588-6611* ***Rooms*** *531*

Though technically in Nevada, no trip to Lake Tahoe is complete without a quick (or not so quick) stop to pull a handle or two at the Nevada casinos. With all the conveniences of a San Francisco hotel, there is good reason to make Harrah's a home base while vacationing here. **www.harrahs.com**

LAKE TAHOE Tahoma Meadows Cottages P 🏃 $$$$

6821 West Lake Boulevard, Tahoma, 96142 ***Tel*** *(530) 525-1553* ***Fax*** *(530) 525-0335* ***Rooms*** *16*

Whether you choose to stay in the B&B cottages or in the self-catering cabins, you will be charmed by the cozy, rustic feel of this establishment. Many rooms have fireplaces and claw-foot bathtubs. Situated close to the lake, many summer activities, such as fishing, biking, rafting, and hiking, are available. **www.tahomameadows.com**

LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK La Quinta Redding ⇅ P ≋ 🏃 🍸 $

2180 Hilltop Drive, Redding, 96002 ***Tel*** *(530) 221-8200* ***Fax*** *(530) 223-4727* ***Rooms*** *141*

The La Quinta Redding is a good jumping-off point for exploring the Mount Lassen Volcanic National Park and Shasta Lake and Dam. Just off the I–5 artery, this hotel provides a pool, fitness center, airport shuttle, and a complimentary Continental breakfast. The rooms are clean, if a bit generic, but the service is consistent. **www.lq.com**

LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK Cornelius Daly Inn P $$$

1125 H Street, Eureka, 95501 ***Tel*** *(707) 445-3638* ***Rooms*** *5*

This stately Victorian building is located in the atmospheric area of Eureka. Each room has been restored, but the innkeepers have taken care to preserve the original character of the house with period-appropriate antique furniture and decor. Annie Murphy's Room has a functioning fireplace. **www.dalyinn.com**

MENDOCINO/ REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK Riverbar Farm P $$

355 Riverbar Rd, Fortuna, 95540 ***Tel*** *(707) 768-9272* ***Fax*** *(707) 768-9273* ***Rooms*** *4*

It's best to book your room early at this working farm and bed-and-breakfast with only four rooms. The spartan rooms are clean and cozy, and the charm of waking up to the bustle of a functioning farm (and hearty breakfast) makes for a great vacation experience. In October there is a pumpkin patch and corn maze for children. **www.riverbarfarm.com**

MENDOCINO/ REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK Victorian Inn P 🍴 $$$

400 Ocean Ave, Ferndale, 95536 ***Tel*** *(707) 786-4949* ***Fax*** *(707) 786-4558* ***Rooms*** *12*

The impressive Victorian Inn anchors one of the prominent corners in downtown Ferndale. Beautifully lit at night, each of the rooms blends Victorian charm with modern conveniences. Curley's, downstairs, offers food and drink in a convivial atmosphere, perfect for unwinding after a day of sightseeing. **www.victorianvillageinn.com**

MONTEREY San Carlos Inn P 🏃 ♿ W $

850 Abrego Street, 93940 ***Tel*** *(831) 649-6332* ***Fax*** *(831) 649-6353* ***Rooms*** *55*

One of the best deals in town, the San Carlos Inn offers a great location near downtown historic Monterey and Fisherman's Wharf. The rooms are clean, large and comfortable, and the staff is eager to make your stay enjoyable. Other perks include free parking and free Internet service. **www.montereydaysinn.com**

MONTEREY Monterey Plaza Hotel and Spa P 🍴 🏃 🍸 ♿ $$$

400 Cannery Row, 93940 ***Tel*** *(831) 646-1700* ***Fax*** *(831) 646-0285* ***Rooms*** *300*

This luxurious get-away hotel boasts spectacular views of the Pacific from all areas of the hotel. The service here is exceptional and the restaurants serve innovative cuisine and locally sourced seafood. The nearby attractions are virtually limitless. **www.montereyplazahotel.com**

MONTEREY The Clement Monterey Hotel P ≋ 🏃 🍸 P ♿ W $$$

750 Cannery Row, 93940 ***Tel*** *(831) 375-4500* ***Fax*** *(831) 375-4501* ***Rooms*** *209*

A chic haven amidst the bustling tourist area of Cannery Row, this hotel has a wonderfully modern vibe set against the dramatic landscape of the Pacific. It offers great service, dynamic views and perfectly appointed rooms. Enjoy the spa and pool area or take a short walk to the world renowned Monterey Aquarium. **www.ichotelsgroup.com**

Key to Price Guide *see p210* **Key to Symbols** *see back cover flap*

NAPA WINE COUNTRY Hotel St. Helena

P $$$

1309 Main Street, St. Helena, 94574 ***Tel*** *(707) 963-4388* ***Fax*** *(707) 963-5402* ***Rooms*** *18*

This charming Victorian hotel, built in 1890, is a good base for touring the surrounding Napa Wine Country. Every room is designed differently and features four-poster beds. The elegant, flower-filled lobby is the perfect place to sip a glass of wine and contemplate dinner plans. **www.hotelsthelena.net**

NAPA WINE COUNTRY River Terrace Inn

⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🏋 🍸 W $$$

1600 Soscol Ave, Napa, 94559 ***Tel*** *(707) 320-9000* ***Fax*** *(707) 258-1236* ***Rooms*** *106*

River Terrace Inn offers a more reasonably priced option for the Wine Country visitors. Although it doesn't afford some of the spectacular views of other nearby hotels, it is good value. Amenities include high-speed Wi-Fi Internet access, a fitness center, and an outdoor pool. **www.riverterraceinn.com**

NAPA WINE COUNTRY Auberge du Soleil

⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🏋 🍸 $$$$

180 Rutherford Hill Rd, Rutherford ***Tel*** *(707) 963-1211* ***Fax*** *(707) 963-8764* ***Rooms*** *52*

There is no finer place to stay in all of the Wine Country (or Northern California, for that matter) than the Auberge du Soleil. Guest rooms, housed in small cottages, overlook the entire Napa Valley. This resort has every imaginable amenity and all the quiet understatement of a sprawling French estate. **www.aubergedusoleil.com**

SACRAMENTO Inn at Parkside

P 🍴 ≋ 🏋 🍸 $$$$

2116 6th St, Sacramento, 95818 ***Tel*** *(916) 658-1818* ***Fax*** *(916) 658-1809* ***Rooms*** *7*

A celebrated boutique, Inn at Parkside combines the holistic sensibilities of Asia, with the comfort of a California country home. The grounds feature rambling landscaping, and the full-service Spa Bloom. This unique hotel fills its rooms quickly, so book ahead. **www.innatparkside.com**

SAUSALITO Hotel Sausalito

P W $$$

16 El Portal, Sausalito, 94965 ***Tel*** *(415) 332-0700* ***Fax*** *(415) 332-8788* ***Rooms*** *16*

Because it is not located directly on the water, Hotel Sausalito is exceptional value for its high quality of facilities and services. Each of its comfortable rooms is individually decorated. Continental breakfast is provided as are high-tech extras like wireless Internet access and in-room fax machines. **www.hotelsausalito.com**

SAUSALITO Casa Madrona

P 🍴 🍸 $$$$

801 Bridgeway, Sausalito, 94965 ***Tel*** *(415) 332-0502* ***Fax*** *(415) 332-2537* ***Rooms*** *61*

The gorgeous Casa Madrona, just across the bay from San Francisco, has long been an ideal weekend destination for city dwellers looking for some rest and relaxation. It is also perfect for a laid-back, yet romantic, retreat. Between the on-site restaurant and full-service spa, you may never want to leave. **www.casamadrona.com**

SAUSALITO Inn Above Tide

P $$$$

30 El Portal, Sausalito, 94965 ***Tel*** *(415) 332-9535* ***Fax*** *(415) 332-6714* ***Rooms*** *29*

Poised on pillars, directly over the San Francisco Bay, Inn Above Tide has lovely views of the ocean from all of its rooms. In-room facilities include private patios and hot tubs, making it an unparalled romantic destination. Located in the heart of downtown Sausalito, it is convenient for restaurants and shopping. **www.innabovetide.com**

SONOMA Best Western Dry Creek Inn

P 🍴 ≋ 🏋 🍸 W $$

198 Dry Creek Rd, Healdsburg, 95448 ***Tel*** *(707) 433-0300* ***Fax*** *(707) 433-1129* ***Rooms*** *103*

One of the best value hotels in the Sonoma Valley, Dry Creek Inn offers basic rooms with a handful of amenities. A complimentary bottle of wine is presented to guests at check-in and some rooms come with free high-speed Internet access. The pool and fitness center make it a great stop for families and large groups. **www.bestwestern.com**

SONOMA The Raford Inn Bed and Breakfast Inn

P $$$

10630 Wohler Rd, Healdsburg, 95448 ***Tel*** *(707) 887-9573* ***Fax*** *(707) 887-9597* ***Rooms*** *6*

This cozy bed-and-breakfast was once situated on a 1,300-acre plot. These days, the Raford House sits snugly on the last four remaining acres of the original property. One of the most breathtaking features is the natural beauty of the location. Each room has a queen-sized bed and bath, and there is a wine reception in the evenings. **www.rafordhouse.com**

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK Curry Village

P 🍴 🏋 $

Yosemite National Park ***Tel*** *(801) 559-5000* ***Rooms*** *628*

Yosemite's Curry Village offers a multitude of options for the budget traveler and a great choice for families. For the more adventurous, there is a canvas tent with a shared bath, while those preferring a less rustic option can stay in one of the standard motel rooms found on this sprawling property. **www.yosemitepark.com**

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK Yosemite Lodge at the Falls

P 🍴 ≋ 🏋 W $$$

Yosemite National Park ***Tel*** *(209) 372-1274* ***Fax*** *(209) 372-1444* ***Rooms*** *245*

Situated at the base of Yosemite Falls, Yosemite Lodge is an excellent take-off point for exploring the park. Rooms are basic, but the hotel provides many conveniences such as wireless Internet access, a swimming pool, and bicycle rentals. The outdoor ampitheater hosts frequent naturalist programs. **www.yosemitepark.com**

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK Ahwahnee Hotel

⇅ P 🍴 ≋ 🏋 $$$$

Yosemite National Park ***Tel*** *(209) 372-1407* ***Fax*** *(209) 372-1463* ***Rooms*** *123*

The Ahwahnee is one of the most magnificent places to stay in all of California. Built in 1927, it is a National Historic Landmark, famous for its impeccable setting in the spectacular Yosemite National Park. Five-star dining, gorgeous common areas, and impeccable service make it a must-stop. **www.yosemitepark.com**

RESTAURANTS AND CAFÉS

There are more than 5,000 places to eat and drink in San Francisco, and because competition between restaurants is fierce, visitors can find great food at reasonable prices. Easy access to fresh produce, and particularly to seafood, has made the city a hotbed of good, innovative "California Cuisine." San Francisco's role as an international port of entry *(see pp40–43)* has brought a variety of ethnic cuisine to the city. The *Choosing a Restaurant* list on pages 228–41 provides a selection of representative restaurants; lighter fare and quick snacks are listed on page 243. San Francisco's cafés are on page 242.

ANCHOR STEAM BEER
Made in San Francisco since 1896

Anchor beer label

SAN FRANCISCO'S RESTAURANTS

A wide range of food from around the world can be found in San Francisco. The most fashionable restaurants are in the center of the city, with more in the South of Market area. Chestnut Street, in the Marina District, and the stretch of Fillmore Street between Bush Street and Jackson Street are also worth investigating. Italian food is available in the North Beach area, while Latin American fare can be found in the Mission District. Chinatown has Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Thai, as well as many Chinese, restaurants. On Geary Boulevard and Clement Street, in the Richmond District, are more Chinese eateries.

Sign for Alioto's Restaurant *(see p231)*

A number of restaurants now follow the American Heart Association's guidelines for reducing cholesterol and dietary fat. A red heart beside a dish denotes an AHA-approved "Healthy Heart" meal, low in calories and cholesterol. Many restaurants also print the calories of each menu item.

OTHER PLACES TO EAT

San Francisco offers a broad range of venues other than restaurants in which to consume food. Many hotels have excellent dining rooms open to the public. Some of these, like Campton Place or the Ritz-Carlton, are among the city's finest places to eat. Other hotels provide informal buffets at lunchtime and in the evening. Most also have coffee shops for breakfast or for late-night eating.

Delicatessens, where you can buy a salad or a sandwich, are not very common in San Francisco, but some can be found in the Financial District. There are fast-food outlets all over the city, and many street vendors sell Mexican food. Dishes from these stalls might include fried corn tortillas, with a vegetable filling, or *burritos* (wheat-flour tortillas with meat, vegetables or beans).

MICROBREWERY BARS

In the world of beer, microbreweries are big news. On-site brewmasters serve a selection of national and international beers as well as brewing their own specials, such as San Francisco's famous Anchor Steam beer. If a beer proves successful locally, it can go on to earn national and sometimes international recognition. A variety of snack foods is also served at these bars to soak up the beer.

A waiter preparing a drink at the coffee machine

Opulent dining room decor at an upmarket restaurant

HOURS AND PRICES

Prices vary widely, and they depend partly on when you eat. Breakfast is available between 7am and 11am, and is often inexpensive, costing between $8 and $15. Brunch (a large cooked breakfast), usually served between 10am and 2pm on Saturdays and Sundays, costs about $7 to $20. At lunchtime you can buy a light meal for about $6 between 11am and 2:30pm. In the best restaurants lunchtime prices are lower than they are at dinner, but they are still by no means cheap. In the evenings, meals are generally served from 6pm, and many kitchens begin to close around 10pm. Salads and appetizers cost between $5 and $8 each and main dishes are between $10 and $25. In the very best restaurants, however, a meal can cost $75, plus $30 to $50 for a bottle of wine. A few places are open all night.

DINING ON A BUDGET

One way of stretching your budget is to eat a large, late breakfast. Eating outside can be a real treat: at midday, buy some of the fresh fruit so abundant here, and have a picnic lunch. If eating in a restaurant, you can cut expenses by sharing: portions here are often large. Or, take advantage of the free food offered by many city center bars between 4pm and 6pm: delicacies such as fried *won ton* are often included in the price of a drink. *San Francisco's Bars* on page 270 has specific recommendations. Many places offer fixed-price meals at a good price. Chez Panisse *(see p239)* in Berkeley, for example, provides a four-course meal on Tuesdays for half the usual rate.

TAX AND TIPPING

A sales tax of 9.5 percent is added to all meal checks in San Francisco, although a service charge is rarely included unless there are six or more in your party. You are expected to leave a tip, however. About 15 percent of the total bill is average, and most locals simply double the tax, then round it up or down. The tip can be left in cash at the table, or added to the total if you are using a credit card.

DRESS CODES

As in most of California, restaurant owners in San Francisco take a fairly relaxed approach toward dress, and most places will allow you in wearing a T-shirt and a pair of jeans. However, in the trendier establishments, which are design-conscious down to the last dinner plate, style is crucial and you are expected to dress the part. Otherwise, it is only in the grander dining rooms of the city center hotels that you are required to dress formally.

Customers leaving a tip after a meal

RESERVATIONS

It is always best to make a reservation in advance to avoid disappointment. Popular restaurants tend to be booked a week or more ahead for Friday and Saturday nights. Weekdays, however, you should be able to reserve a table if you phone only a day in advance. If you don't have a reservation, and sometimes even if you do, you may have to wait for a table. Pass the time nursing a cocktail or sampling one of the city's interesting beers.

Mels drive-in
DINER
The forecourt of Mel's Drive-In diner *(see p228)*

SMOKING

In 2005, smoking was banned in public parks, squares, and all outdoor spaces owned by the city. Smoking indoors is prohibited throughout California, unless there is a separate air circulation system in place where the possibility of anyone breathing in unwanted secondary smoke is slim.

Some restaurants with outdoor eating areas may have a separate section reserved for smokers, and sometimes the bar area will have a separate section where you may be permitted to smoke.

CHILDREN

All restaurants in the city are happy to serve well-behaved children, although at some of the trendier ones you may feel uncomfortable bringing your offspring along.

At the more family-oriented establishments, such as North Beach Italian restaurants, or a Chinatown *dim sum* house on a Sunday morning, children are welcomed. They are also usually allowed in hotel dining rooms. Most places are happy to supply high chairs or booster seats and offer children's portions or alternative menus.

The minimum legal age of 21 for drinking beer and alcohol is strictly enforced throughout the city. Children are not allowed in any bar. However, if food is served on the premises, children can accompany adults to eat.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

Since 1992 all restaurants in San Francisco have been required by law to be accessible to those patrons who are wheelchair bound. There should be no steps into the restaurant or to the tables, and bathroom doors should be wide. Most established places comply fully with regulations and new places are designed with them in mind. Occasionally you may need to call ahead to find out about access facilities.

The Flavors of San Francisco

If variety is the spice of life, then San Francisco's culinary scene is as red-hot as the tear-inducing salsa liberally dished out by the city's top-notch Mexican *taquerias*. You could find your way around San Francisco by scent alone: the sharp tang of espresso mingles with robust wafts of marinara sauce in the North Beach Italian sector, the sizzling *sabor de México* heats up the Mission district, and cacophonous Chinatown exudes the steamy fragrance of dim sum and crispy duck. For a sweet finale, indulge in San Francisco's very own Ghirardelli Chocolate, produced in the Bay Area for over 150 years.

Avocados

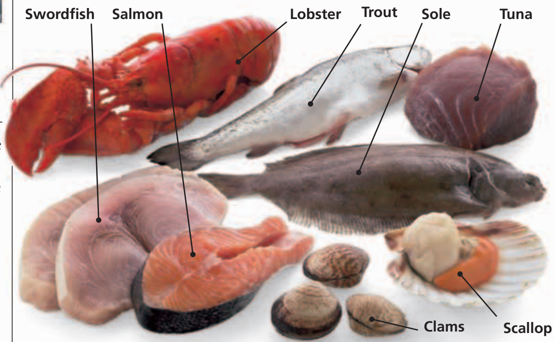
Celebrated chef, Yoshi Kojima, prepares a carp for cooking

CALIFORNIA CUISINE

The Bay Area is the birthplace of California cuisine. The sheer variety of fresh produce in Northern California results in a culinary style that's all about the "cult of the ingredient", rather than specific dishes, leaving ample room for creativity. Many of San Francisco's best chefs cultivate a close relationship with regional growers, so what arrives at the table may have been pulled from the earth only hours before, such as freshly-plucked arugula (rocket) leaves, just washed of their dirt clumps, and heirloom tomatoes so juicy you may have to ask for an extra napkin. With such agricultural riches, San Francisco's renowned chefs are inspired to work culinary magic, creating minimalist works of art that beg to be eaten, from baby artichokes ringed by vibrant lemon slices to wafer-thin slices of raw ahi tuna fanned atop a rainbow of grilled vegetables.

ASIAN FOOD

Explore Chinatown's web of bustling, pungent streets and you'll soon discover how the



A selection of ocean-fresh San Francisco fish and shellfish

SAN FRANCISCO DISHES AND SPECIALTIES

A true melting pot, San Francisco not only features authentic Mexican, Italian, and Asian fare, but a creative commingling of them all. Each cuisine inspires the other, resulting in marvelous fusion dishes that have earned the city its gushing accolades as a foodie paradise. Feast on anything from wok-fried spicy greens to sautéed seafood with ginger salsa or baby vegetables with Vietnamese mint. Round out your meal with a warm hunk of the city's deservedly famous sourdough bread, widely considered among the best in the world. The bread's unique taste and texture stems from a yeast of wild microorganisms, stumbled upon by gold-miners over a century ago, that thrive only in the Bay Area's unique climate.

Dim sum

Clam chowder *Restaurants on Fisherman's Wharf serve this dish of creamy soup in a hollowed-out sourdough roll.*

Colorful interior of a bustling Mexican *taqueria*

restaurants here turn out exquisite Asian fare fit for an emperor. Massive aquariums are home (temporarily, that is) to giant carp swimming in languid circles, and sinewy eels unfurling amid swaying seaweed. Bulging sacks overflow with aromatic spices, and wooden crates bloom with dew-sprinkled bok choy and scallions (spring onions). Peer into an open kitchen for a glimpse of skilled chefs, knives a-blur, transforming whole ducks into paper-thin slivers that will melt in your mouth. The secret to Chinatown's culinary prowess is that the neighborhood's chefs are cooking for the most discerning of diners – their own people. San Francisco's Chinatown boasts the second-largest Asian population outside of China.

MEXICAN FARE

The urban fuel of San Francisco – and one of the best bargains around – is the city's fast, filling, and delicious Mexican fare. Dig into an epic burrito, filled to bursting with beans, rice and smoky chunks of beef, and you'll be satiated for the day. From saffron-scented rice and jumbo pinto beans to hand-rolled steamed tortillas infused with spinach and sun-dried tomato, the city's ubiquitous *taquerias* offer south-of-the-border pizzazz.

Crab and clams on a harborside seafood stall

DUNGENESS CRAB

The Dungeness crab is famed for its delicate meat. When its season arrives, from mid-November to June, locals celebrate by eating it in as many ways as possible, or simply cracked with butter and crusty sourdough bread.

ON THE MENU

Cioppino A tomato-based stew made with chunks of fish and shellfish.

Dim sum A Chinese lunchtime specialty, these little dumplings, steamed or fried, are stuffed with fish, meat or vegetables.

Hangtown fry A hearty omelette filled with breaded oysters and bacon.

Petrale sole This delicate local fish is usually served lightly sautéed.

Tortilla A Mexican staple, this round, flat unleavened corn- or wheat-flour bread forms the basis of many other dishes, such as burritos, quesadillas, and tacos.

Spicy marinated steak *North Beach Italian restaurants often serve steak with garlic, anchovy and lemon butter.*

Seared ahi tuna with Asian salsa *The fusion salsa is made with shiitake mushrooms and Szechuan peppercorns.*

Ghirardelli tiramisu *A North Beach favorite of mascarpone cheese, Ghirardelli chocolate, cream, and coffee liqueur.*

What to Drink in San Francisco

California is now one of the world's largest and most exciting wine-producing areas, and the best vintages come from the wine country north of San Francisco, especially the Napa and Sonoma Valleys. Most California wines are made from the classic European grape varieties but, unlike European wines, are identified by grape rather than by wine-growing district. Locally brewed beers and mineral waters are also popular, and the usual range of beverages are available.

Northern Sonoma vineyards, the ideal local climate for growing the fussy Pinot Noir grape

CALIFORNIA
Pinot Noir
RED WINE

Pinot Noir

FRANCISCAN

Cabernet Sauvignon

RED WINE

Vines thrive in the mild climate of Northern California where cooling fogs help the grapes reach perfection. The main red wine varieties grown in the region are Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir, Merlot and Zinfandel. Cabernet Sauvignon is still the prime grape type, with excellent vintages produced in all major growing regions. Pinot Noir, used in the legendary French Burgundy wines, has become increasingly popular as wineries have mastered its temperamental nature, and the moist Anderson Valley in Sonoma and the Carneros in Napa Valley have emerged as prime growing regions. Merlot, used in many Bordeaux clarets, and Zinfandel, a bold and full-bodied grape popular in California, are grown all over the state.

FROG'S LEAP
1990 ZINFANDEL
NAPA VALLEY

Red Zinfandel wines can be light and fruity, but at their best are rich, dark and hearty.

Jordan
Cabernet Sauvignon

Cabernet Sauvignon wines taste of black-currants with an acidic edge softened by oak.

WINE TYPE	GOOD VINTAGES	GOOD PRODUCERS
Red Wine		
Cabernet Sauvignon	07, 04, 03, 02, 97, 96, 94, 93, 91, 90	Caymus Vineyards, Chateau Montelana, Jordan, Kistler Vineyards, Ridge, Robert Mondavi, Stags Leap, Swanson
Pinot Noir	06, 04, 03, 02, 01, 99, 97, 96, 95, 93, 92, 91	Au Bon Climat, Byron, Calera, Cuvaison, De Loach, Etude, Sanford, Saintsbury
Merlot	05, 04, 02, 01, 99, 96, 95, 91, 90	Chateau St Jean, Duckhorn Vineyards, Newton, Pine Ridge, Robert Sinskey, Whitehall Lane Reserve
Zinfandel	08, 03, 01, 96, 95, 91, 90	Clos du Val, Farrell, Fetzer, Frog's Leap, Kunde, Rabbit Ridge, Ravenswood, Ridge, Turley
White Wine		
Chardonnay	07, 05, 04, 03, 02, 01, 97, 96, 95, 94, 91, 90	Au Bon Climat, Beringer, Forman, De Loach, Far Niente, Kent Rasmussen, Kitzler, Peter Michael, Robert Sinskey, Sterling Vineyards
Semillon	06, 05, 03, 02, 96, 95, 94, 91, 90	Alban, Calera, Cline Cellars, Joseph Phelps, Niebaum-Coppola, Wild Horse
Sauvignon Blanc	06, 05, 03, 02, 99, 97, 96, 95, 94, 91, 90,	Cakebread, De Loach, Frogs Leap, Joseph Phelps, Robert Mondavi Winery, Spottswoode

PEDRONCELLI
JP
DRY CREEK VALLEY
MERLOT
1990
SONOMA COUNTY

Merlot, often used to provide more fruit in a blend, produces rich, soft wines on its own.

PINOT NOIR
SAINTSBURY

Pinot Noir, at its best, has a floral elegance and a delicate strawberry flavor.

Sterling Vineyards
Chardonnay
Napa Valley, California
Fetzer
Chardonnay

Chardonnay **Organic Chardonnay**

WHITE WINE

As with red, California's white wines are classified by grape variety, with Chardonnay by far the most popular of recent years. Grown throughout the West Coast region, this prestige grape produces wines varying in character from dry, light, lemon and vanilla-scented to the more headstrong and oaky. You can also find over 13 other white wine varieties and blends to try, as well as organically grown wines.

THE 1976 BLIND TASTING

On May 24, 1976, at a blind tasting organized by the English wine consultant Steven Spurrier, French judges awarded California red (Stag's Leap Cabernet Sauvignon 1973, Napa Valley) and white (Chateau Montelana 1973 Chardonnay, Napa Valley) wines the top prizes in their respective categories. Six of the top ten in each category were also California wines, a result that sent shock waves through the wine world. Within a decade, a number of illustrious French producers such as Baron de Rothschild had invested in California wineries of their own.

BEER

The resurgence in small breweries across the US can fairly be credited to the success of San Francisco's Anchor brewery, whose Steam Beer, Liberty Ale and other products show that American beer need not be bland and tasteless. Other tasty local brews include Mendocino County's rich Boont Amber and Red Tail Ale.

Red Tail Ale

Liberty Ale

Liberty Ale

Anchor Steam Beer
San Francisco

Anchor Steam Beer

DUCKHORN VINEYARDS
NAPA VALLEY
SAUVIGNON BLANC

Sauvignon Blanc wines range from clean and zingy to soft and buttery.

SIMI
Chardonnay
1989

Chardonnay is often fermented or aged in French oak barrels, lending it smooth vanilla tones.

Beringer
Vineyards
White Zinfandel
North Coast · California

White Zinfandel wines, often blushed pink, are light, sweetish and easy to drink.

Dry Creek Vineyard
1992 Dry Chenin Blanc

Chenin Blanc, also used in blends, makes typically dry, quiet wines on its own.

SPARKLING WINE

If proof were needed that California is a prime spot for making sparkling wine, then look no farther than the fact that the finest French wine producers have huge investments in California. Moet & Chandon and Mumm, among others, have set up wineries in the Napa Valley and elsewhere. These companies, along with local producers Schramsberg and Korbel, have helped the West Coast establish an international reputation for excellent "Champagne" at the right price.

Cuvée Napa
Mumm
Brut

Sparkling wine

OTHER DRINKS

Coffee drinks of all kinds are available from kiosks, cafés and restaurants across the city; you can also find a great variety of herbal teas.

Espresso

Cappuccino

Latte

WATER

Health-conscious San Franciscans avail themselves of locally produced mineral water, the best of which comes from Calistoga in Napa Valley. Many mineral waters come flavored with fresh fruit, and most are carbonated. The tap water is fresh and clean.

Calistoga bottled water

Choosing a Restaurant

These restaurants have been selected across a range of price categories for their exceptional food, good value, and interesting location. They are listed by area and within these by price, both for central San Francisco and the surrounding areas. Map references refer to the Street Finder, pages 302–312.

PRICE CATEGORIES
For a three-course meal for one, a glass of house wine, and all unavoidable extra charges including tax.

$ under $25
$$ $25–$35
$$$ $35–$50
$$$$ $50–$70
$$$$$ over $70

PRESIDIO

Good Luck Dim Sum 🧒 ♿ $

736 Clement St, 94118 ***Tel*** *(415) 386-3388* ***Map*** *3 5A*

A local favorite, this joint is known to serve the freshest dim sum at rock-bottom prices. Those joining the long lines usually come for take-out. The Formica tables in the back provide a steady surface to eat from if not much else. Good Luck always sells out by early afternoon, so get there in the morning for the best selection.

King of Thai 🧒 ♿ $

639 Clement St, 94118 ***Tel*** *(415) 752-5198* ***Map*** *3 A5*

The late-night hours and extremely inexpensive steaming noodle dishes make King of Thai a great hit. Many branches of this citywide chain are open late, and none take credit cards or checks. Spiciness can be adjusted according to each diner's preference. Vegetarian entrées are available.

The Warming Hut 🧒 ♿ ⛱ $

Marine Drive and Long Avenue, 94129 ***Tel*** *(415) 561-3040* ***Map*** *2 F2*

A great place to warm up on those cold San Francisco days with a cup of coffee and a sandwich. The real pull of this cozy shack is the view – a beautiful "only-in-San Francisco" vista surrounds you here. The perfect stop after a long walk across the Golden Gate Bridge.

Presidio Social Club 🧒 ♿ $$$

563 Ruger Street, 94129 ***Tel*** *(415) 885-1888* ***Map*** *3 C3*

The retro vibe at this hip Presidio restaurant brings large crowds for dinner and lunch. Housed in an interesting refurbished building, the cool interior evokes a casual, rustic atmosphere. Brunch is less crowded and gets rave reviews. Not a huge menu, but lots of favorites, like macaroni cheese and hamburgers, that will certainly please.

Sociale ♿ ⛱ $$$

3665 Sacramento Street, 94118 ***Tel*** *(415) 921-3200* ***Map*** *3 B4*

This is a hidden gem and local favorite. Sit outside on the heated patio for a truly romantic experience. The menu changes seasonally, yet always features local produce, organic meats and fish and homemade pastas. Known for its eclectic yet impressive wine list. Keep in mind that it is closed Sundays.

PACIFIC HEIGHTS AND THE MARINA

La Mediterranee 🧒 ♿ $

2210 Fillmore St, 94115 ***Tel*** *(415) 921-2956* ***Map*** *4 D4*

Taking up only a narrow space, La Mediterranée serves delicious Mediterranean specialties, such as hummus and falafel, with the reasonably priced house wine. This old neighborhood haunt still displays a flying dove and the name of the former tenants on the stained glass over the door. There is also a branch in Berkeley.

Liverpool Lil's 🧒 ♿ ⛱ $

2942 Lyon St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 921-6664* ***Map*** *3 C3*

Liverpool Lil's fame as a preferred spot for lunch and dinner rests on its strong bar drinks, friendly service, and reliable pub menu featuring big salads, pepper steaks, and an outstanding hamburger. In warm weather, the outside tables look over the west boundary of the Presidio. It opens late and serves till after midnight.

Mel's Drive-In 🧒 ♿ ⛱ $

2165 Lombard St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 921-2867* ***Map*** *3 C3*

This 1950s-style diner is not the real thing, but it comes close enough with period decor, tabletop jukeboxes, and brightly garbed waitresses. Perfect for hamburger-and-fries baskets with thick milkshakes, a late-night snack, or an early-morning breakfast of their country eggs and grilled potatoes.

Key to Symbols *see back cover flap*

Wok Shop Café
🚸 ♿ $

1307 Sutter St, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-2142* ***Map*** *4 F4*

People rave about the soups at this reasonably priced Chinese establishment in the Western Addition, whether it be hot and sour, won ton, or egg flower. Nancy, the owner, is welcoming and helpful. The decor is pretty basic, letting the food do all the talking. You cannot beat this fast and friendly place for a quick and tasty Chinese meal.

Balboa Café
♿ $$

3199 Fillmore St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 921-3944* ***Map*** *4 D2*

Reliable lunches and brunches are the mainstay of Balboa Café, the elder statesman of the area known as "the Triangle" for its trendy bars. A must-try are the hamburgers here. After dinner, this restaurant becomes a meet-and-greet hotspot for 30-somethings.

Brazen Head
♿ $$

3166 Buchanan St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 921-7600* ***Map*** *4 D2*

This cash-only, dark, pub-like hideaway is the favored destination for those craving a traditional grilled steak, scotch on the rocks, and a quiet conversation late at night after the other local restaurants have closed. Visitors know the location by the address – there is no sign.

Fresca
🚸 ♿ $$

2114 Fillmore St, 94115 ***Tel*** *(415) 447-2668* ***Map*** *4 D4*

This Peruvian restaurant has a country-feel interior with an open kitchen. There are plenty of great home-style meat and seafood dishes. Specialties include their ceviche dishes, based on halibut with ginger and *amarillo aji* (yellow Peruvian chili), and *parihuela*, a Peruvian bouillabaisse. The casual ambience adds to its appeal.

Pane e Vino
🚸 ♿ ⛱ $$

1715 Union St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 346-2111* ***Map*** *4 E2*

Pane e Vino is a good place to stop for lunch or dinner in the Union Street shopping area. During fine weather, diners may sit outside in a delightfully decorated patio to enjoy pastas and grilled Italian specialties along with the restaurant's delicious fresh-baked bread.

Rose's Café
🚸 ♿ ⛱ $$

2298 Union St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 775-2200* ***Map*** *4 D3*

At the Italian-inspired Rose's Café, the tables set outside look over the quiet end of Union Street, while the interior features a cheery yellow space with big windows. The restaurant's main draws are the weekday lunches (with good salads and pastas), as well as weekend brunches. Specialties include French toast, breakfast pizzas, and a good international wine list.

A16
♿ $$$

2355 Chestnut Street, 94101 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-2216* ***Map*** *3 C2*

Famous for its wood-burning oven that turns out delectable pizzas, this is the place to see and be seen in the Marina. The meatballs, house-cured salami and pastas are truly authentic and out of this world. Call ahead to get a reservation as the restaurant is very popular.

Betelnut
🚸 ♿ $$$

2030 Union St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 929-8855* ***Map*** *4 E2*

Serving contemporary Asian cuisine, Betelnut has been described as everything from "woodsey country Asian" to "sexy back alley." Great variety from salads, dumplings, noodles and larger plates of seafood, pork, beef and chicken can be found on the menu.

Citizen Cake
♿ $$$

2125 Fillmore St, 94114 ***Tel*** *(415) 861-2228* ***Map*** *4 D4*

Huge wraparound windows encase a spare, modern-industrial space frequented by a stylish crowd. The menu changes every three to four months, and often includes sandwiches prepared with homemade breads and salads made from local, seasonal produce. The desserts are some of the best around.

Elite Café
🚸 ♿ $$$

2049 Fillmore St, 94115 ***Tel*** *(415) 673-5483* ***Map*** *4 D4*

In the middle of the Fillmore shopping area, Elite Café is an institution, with intimate booths and a hopping bar that serves fresh oysters along with stiff drinks. The New Orleans-style gumbos and jambalayas also feature on the weekend brunch menu.

Greens
🚸 ♿ 👔 $$$

Building A, Fort Mason Center, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-6222* ***Map*** *4 E1*

Greens is considered by many as the city's most famous vegetarian restaurant. Its elegant, pale walls and views of the Golden Gate Bridge are the perfect setting for the imaginative meat-free delicacies that even a carnivore would love. The bread basket is always heaped with exceptional offerings from the in-house bakery.

Izzy's Steak and Chop House
🚸 ♿ $$$

3345 Steiner St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 563-0487* ***Map*** *4 D2*

Izzy's is all about meat – pork, steak, and chicken – prepared in traditional ways, with side dishes such as scalloped potatoes and creamed spinach. There are a few fish specialties, particularly salmon, and the salads are exceptional. The interior is reminiscent of the dark wood-paneled men's clubs of the past.

Chapeau! $$$$

126 Clement St, 94118 ***Tel*** *(415) 750-9787* ***Map*** *3 A5*

Located in the Richmond District, this warm and welcoming bistro has cozy seating and distinctive French flair. The menu includes such dishes as foie gras, mussels, and a trio of salmon. Go for the three- or four-course prix-fixe menu for the best value. Chef Philippe is often there to greet diners. Reservations recommended.

Isa ♿ ⛱ $$$$

3324 Steiner St, 94123 ***Tel*** *(415) 567-9588* ***Map*** *4 D2*

This hip Marina spot combines the feel of a French bistro with a distinctive California vibe. The food consistently delivers on both flavor and style. Specialties include seared scallops with summer corn, truffle risotto, and roast rack of lamb. The small plates make for easy sharing. Reservations advisable. Closed Sun.

FISHERMAN'S WHARF AND NORTH BEACH

Caffe Greco 🚸 ♿ ⛱ $

423 Columbus Ave, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 397-6261* ***Map*** *5 B3*

When it's time for a rest, stop by this North Beach landmark for an espresso and some homemade tiramisù, or a cool gelato. The sidewalk seating and relaxed attitude about table turnover make this a great people-watching spot.

Capp's Corner 🚸 ♿ $

1600 Powell St, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 989-2589* ***Map*** *5 B3*

A lower-cost option popular with families, Capp's Corner serves up an Americanized version of Italian cooking. Don't expect fine cuisine, but generous portions of all the traditional favorites. Opened in 1960, the restaurant features a photographic gallery of famous former diners.

Brandy Hos 🚸 ♿ $$

217 Columbus Ave, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 788-7527* ***Map*** *5 C3*

This hole-in-the-wall restaurant earned a fiery reputation for delicious, authentic Hunan dishes. Be forewarned – "medium spicy" means hot, while "hot" is alarming. Savvy diners know to quell the fire with rice, not water. Order a "mild" plate and enjoy.

Buena Vista Café ♿ $$

2765 Hyde Street, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 474-5044* ***Map*** *5 A1*

This is establishment is over 100 years old and is famous for its Irish coffee. The location in Fisherman's Wharf is great, with the cable cars going right by the window and the Golden Gate Bridge in full view. The food is good, hearty and satisfying but the café can get crowded and rowdy, so be warned.

Caffe Macaroni 🚸 ♿ $$

59 Columbus, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 956-9737* ***Map*** *5 C3*

This densely packed, two-story eatery serves reliably good pastas (the creamy Alfredo is a favorite) and meat dishes to tourists and locals alike. The bustling café is known for its friendly, enthusiastic waiters and generous portions that satisfy the biggest appetite.

Caffe Sport 🚸 ♿ $$

574 Green St, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 981-1251* ***Map*** *5 C3*

Big, family-style platters of garlic-infused vegetables, spaghetti Bolognese, *cioppino* seafood stew, and other Italian favorites, such as the superb *ziti* pasta in marinara sauce, are served by waiters known for their bossy attitude in this loud, busy eatery. They are happy to tell diners what to order – just ask.

Fog City Diner 🚸 ♿ $$

1300 Battery St, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 982-2000* ***Map*** *5 C2*

Glorified comfort foods, such as garlic, leek, and basil loaf, cheddar biscuits, and mu shu pork burritos are on the menu, alongside burgers and fries at this chrome-trimmed diner lookalike. Weekend brunch features new twists on old favorites such as smoked chicken hash and eggs.

Il Fornaio 🚸 ♿ $$

1265 Battery St, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 986-0100* ***Map*** *5 C2*

A chain that built its reputation on outstanding baked goods, Il Fornaio continues to attract diners with fresh breads, delicious pastas, and grilled meats and fish. The superb butternut squash ravioli in butter sauce is served as both an appetizer and entrée.

The House $$

1230 Grant Avenue, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 986-8612* ***Map*** *5 C3*

People rave about the melt-in-your-mouth sea bass at this understated restaurant in the heart of North Beach. If you're game for something other than Italian food, this is the place for intense Asian flavors and unique dishes. It's small, so reservations are strongly recommended.

Key to Price Guide *see p228* **Key to Symbols** *see back cover flap*

The Stinking Rose 🚸 ♿ $$

325 Columbus Ave, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 781-7673* ***Map*** *5 C3*

True to its name, The Stinking Rose uses garlic in every dish – including dessert. This Northern Italian-style pasta and pizza restaurant is often crowded with those curious about the unusual name, though service and quality can be uneven at times.

Zarzuela 🚸 ♿ $$

2000 Hyde St, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 346-0800* ***Map*** *5 A3*

A variety of tasty tapas, from succulent grilled prawns to hearty *albondigas* (meatballs), and strong sangria make Zarzuela a favorite for an authentic light meal or more. The best Spanish food in the city according to those who swear by the paella. Attentive staff and charming dining room. There may be a wait for a table in the evenings.

Alioto's 🚸 ♿ $$$

8 Fisherman's Wharf, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 673-0183* ***Map*** *5 A1*

Lit by spectacular sunsets filtered through the Golden Gate, Alioto's has been serving well-prepared Sicilian-style seafood since 1925. The food is good, especially the bountiful shrimp or crab Louies (juicy seafood on a bed of crisp romaine lettuce).

Ana Mandara ♿ ⛱ $$$

891 Beach Street, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-6800* ***Map*** *4 F1*

Tasty and flavorful Asian fusion food is not easy to find in Fisherman's Wharf, but this establishment has it. The elegantly decorated space makes for a nice retreat from walking the Wharf. The restaurant comes alive at night with a hip bar scene and live music.

Frascati ♿ $$$

1901 Hyde St, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 928-1406* ***Map*** *4 F2*

Conveniently located on Russian Hill, this bistro specializes in food with a Mediterranean twist. The menu varies regularly to make use of the best seasonal ingredients. Desserts are excellent and there is a varied wine list. Friendly staff and popular with locals.

Joey & Eddie's 🚸 ♿ ⛱ $$$

1652 Stockton St, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 989-7800* ***Map*** *5 B2*

With its sophisticated interior, this is a good place to visit with a large group of people. The menu is full of family-style portions of hearty Italian favorites such as chicken Parmesan, and spaghetti and meatballs. Beware that food can be pricey, as is the norm for North Beach, so ask if any special offers are available.

Scoma's 🚸 ♿ $$$

Pier 47, 1 Al Scoma Way, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-4383* ***Map*** *5 A1*

To have a street named after you means you've been here awhile, and Scoma's started out in 1965 as a coffee shop for local fishermen. A standard-bearer for well-cooked, big portions of fresh fish, this restaurant also features pretty views of the bay.

Sotto Mare 🚸 ♿ ⛱ $$$

552 Green Street, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 398-3181* ***Map*** *5 B3*

Fresh fish, fabulous clam chowder and seafood pasta make this a favorite among tourists and locals. If you are looking for a quiet atmosphere, this isn't the place – the staff is lively and fun, and the dining room can get loud – but with a location right in North Beach, you can take a stroll from here after dinner to one of the many local cafés.

Trattoria Pinocchio 🚸 ♿ ⛱ $$$$

401 Columbus Ave, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 392-1472* ***Map*** *5 B3*

An authentic Italian restaurant in the bustling North Beach neighborhood. Diners can choose from a wide selection of homemade pasta dishes, pizzas, seafood specialties, soups, and salads, and enjoy them while people-watching from the outdoor patio. Friendly staff and a quaint atmosphere make for a memorable evening.

Gary Danko 🚸 ♿ 🍸 $$$$$

800 North Point St, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 749-2060* ***Map*** *5 1A*

In spite of the exorbitant prices, Gary Danko has remained one of the favored restaurants in the city for its New American prix-fixes. Three-, four-, or five-course dinners provide hours of carefully choreographed courses, efficient service, and elegant surroundings. The selection of cheeses is a must-sample.

CHINATOWN AND NOB HILL

Golden Star Vietnamese Restaurant 🚸 ♿ $

11 Walter U. Lum Place, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 398-1215* ***Map*** *5 C3*

Situated across from the Transamerica Pyramid, the Golden Star is narrow and crowded, and the decor is as plain as a school cafeteria. Nonetheless, this little gem serves up big rice dishes and meat portions for very little money. The lunch specials are exceptional value.

Henry's Hunan 🚸 ♿ $

674 Sacramento St, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 788-2234* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Liberally using chunks of dried red chilies in its piquant food, this local chain lives up to its name. Though the decor is basic, making a functional use of Formica, the dishes are authentic and tasty, irrespective of the spiciness – the staff will tone it down on request. It is closed at weekends.

House of Nanking 🚸 ♿ $

919 Kearny, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 421-1429* ***Map*** *5 C3*

The good, traditional menu at the tiny House of Nanking attracts a loyal clientele. Even though the waiters here are a little unfriendly, food comes in generous portions and the prices are reasonably low. The menu offers favorites like sesame chicken and a good selection of vegetarian options. There is usually a wait, but it is well worth it.

Yuet Lee 🚸 ♿ $

1300 Stockton St, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 982-6020* ***Map*** *5 B3*

Yuet Lee's excellent fresh seafood menu and low prices are the reasons for locals flocking here. It has a live fish tank and the chef will cook a whole fish or crab to order. Specialties include steamed fish and seafood; shrimp and pork dumplings; salt-and-pepper squid; and an array of vegetables such as long bean, bokchoy, and asparagus. It opens until 3am.

Great Eastern 🚸 ♿ $$

649 Jackson St, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 986-2500* ***Map*** *5 C3*

A longtime favorite in Chinatown, Great Eastern has a menu featuring reliable, if not inspired, Mandarin dishes. The real draw here is the fresh seafood swimming in the tanks – make sure to ask the waiter for the day's specials to sample the best that the restaurant has to offer.

Nob Hill Café 🚸 ♿ ⛱ $$

1152 Taylor St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 776-6500* ***Map*** *5 B4*

Nob Hill Café is a local favorite, frequently crowded to the rafters, as diners enjoy home-style Italian dishes. Visitors often spot "The Twins" – the delightful Brown sisters – here. The similarly dressed duo is as much a San Francisco institution as Nob Hill itself.

R&G Lounge 🚸 ♿ $$

631 Kearny St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 982-7877* ***Map*** *5 C4*

R&G Lounge features authentic Cantonese and seafood specialties. The decor is rather modest, but the food is always good and the prices are reasonable. Always ask for the specials of the day to sample the most unusual dishes they have on offer.

Street 🚸 ♿ $$

2141 Polk St, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 775-1055* ***Map*** *5 A3*

Comfort food at its finest makes this neighborhood restaurant a favorite. Street is noisy and crowded, but the platters are ample. Try one of the best seafood entrées – big, juicy Gulf prawns served in a saffron-laced lobster broth over buttery homemade pasta. Round it up with the not-too-sweet pecan bread pudding.

Jai Yun 🚸 ♿ $$$

680 Clay St, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 981-7438* ***Map*** *5 B3*

Set in a small space and simply decorated, Jai Yun is full of surprises. The daily prix-fixe includes a series of constantly-changing, small dishes containing fresh ingredients purchased the same morning from the markets. The excellent seafood menu features abalone, squid, and shrimp dishes.

Swan Oyster Depot $$$

1517 Polk Street, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 673-1101* ***Map*** *5 A4*

Lines can be long at this popular lunch destination as no reservations are accepted. The clam chowder is considered the best in the city by many, but all the seafood here is fresh. A small establishment but worth it for exquisite and plentiful seafood choices. Don't miss sampling the oysters. Cash only payments.

Venticello ♿ $$$

1257 Taylor St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 922-2545* ***Map*** *5 B3*

At Venticello, a *trattoria* serving fine Northern Italian cuisine, romance is not about holding hands by the fireplace – it's on the menu. The laidback ambience encourages one to linger with a decaffeinated espresso and port after enjoying a perfectly seasoned plate of scampi.

Acquerello 🚸 ♿ 🍸 $$$$

1722 Sacramento St, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 567-5432* ***Map*** *5 A4*

An exquisite wine list, a knowledgable waitstaff happy to recommend food-and-wine pairings, carved glass decanters, and fine linen set the stage for a truly memorable experience in this former chapel. A rich, Venetian-themed menu makes for sumptuous dining.

Big Four 🚸 ♿ 🍸 $$$$

1075 California St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 771-1140* ***Map*** *5 B4*

Named after the enormously wealthy railroad barons, Big Four is the chosen place for the Nob Hill elite to hobnob. The dark polished-wood paneling and formal service are an appropriate setting for business people and financiers in particular. The top-quality menu includes rack of lamb, juicy chicken with artichokes, and a whiskey-marinated buffalo steak.

Key to Price Guide *see p228* **Key to Symbols** *see back cover flap*

Fleur de Lys

$$$$$

777 Sutter St, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 673-7779* ***Map*** *5 B4*

The prix-fixes on the French *nouvelle cuisine* menu here are the ultimate in gourmet dining, and the waitstaff flawlessly guides diners from one dish to the next in a lovely tented room. Fleur de Lys also serves a spectacular vegetarian prix-fixe dinner.

Masa's

$$$$$

648 Bush St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 989-7154* ***Map*** *5 B4*

In Masa's stylish, urbane setting, diners are treated royally as they sample exquisite *nouvelle cuisine*. A celebrated local chef for several years, Masa continues to beguile diners by changing much of the menu every day, based on fresh market buys.

Ritz-Carlton Dining Room

$$$$$

600 Stockton St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 773-6198* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Ranked number one in many city and travel magazine surveys, the elegant Dining Room is a perfect example of premium service in the grand European tradition. The highly praised menu exhibits an Asian influence, introducing ingredients found in local markets.

FINANCIAL DISTRICT AND UNION SQUARE

Café Bastille

$$

22 Belden Place, 94104 ***Tel*** *(415) 986-5673* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Tucked away in a traffic-free alley, this mini-Paris is often crowded with diners enjoying the fine weather at outside tables during the day or jazz in the evenings. Basic bistro soups, salads, beer and wine are served along with French specialties such as *moules marinière* with harissa (red chili) sauce and tripe sausage with caramelized onions.

Delancey Street Restaurant

$$

600 Embarcadero, 94107 ***Tel*** *(415) 512-5179* ***Map*** *6 E5*

A wonderful place for dining, Delancey Street Restaurant serves delicious comfort food, including the excellent meatloaf and ribs, and bourbon-glazed steaks as well as other American dishes. The service is beyond good. The restaurant supports a respected substance-abuse recovery program.

Gaylord India

$$

1 Embarcadero Center, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 397-7775* ***Map*** *6 D3*

Gaylord turns out Indian standards – lamb curry, biriyanis, and vegetarian dishes – in pleasant surroundings. One of two branches in the city, this is the better of the two, and often crowded at lunchtime with local business people. The other branch is located at 900 Northpoint.

Yank Sing

$$

101 Spear St, 94105 ***Tel*** *(415) 957-9300* ***Map*** *6 E4*

Much loved for its exquisite dim sum, Yank Sing allows diners to choose from over 100 different items, displayed on the constantly circulating carts. The upscale surroundings make this a cut above most dim sum parlors. Reservations are available.

Canteen

$$$

817 Sutter Street, 94109 ***Tel*** *(415) 928-8870* ***Map*** *5 B4*

Go for brunch and you won't be disappointed at this cozy, neighborhood-feel restaurant not far from Union Square. The eggs Benedict is heavenly, as is the French toast, but the star of the brunch is "The Big Pancake." Dinner wins equally rave reviews for its simplicity, real-sized portions and quiet atmosphere. Dinner menu changes weekly.

Chez Papa Resto

$$$

4 Mint Plaza, 94103 ***Tel*** *(415) 546-4134* ***Map*** *11 A1*

This is a great place to come for a special celebration. The look and feel of the restaurant is uber chic but the staff is friendly and helpful. Dinner can be expensive, but its worth it for the mouth-watering kobe beef, fresh sea bass or scallop dishes. The fixed-price menu offers good value for money.

Globe

$$$

290 Pacific Avenue, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 391-4132* ***Map*** *5 C3*

This sleek, modern bistro is located near the Transamerica Pyramid and offers tasty late-night cuisine and a buzzing bar scene. The steel bar next to the entrance is festooned with fresh flowers and the partly exposed kitchen lets the clientele peek at their food being prepared.

Kokkari Estiatorio

$$$

200 Jackson St, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 981-0983* ***Map*** *6 D3*

The Kokkari serves stylish Greek food in a large, comfortable dining area with dark wood floors and a big, cozy fireplace. The signature moussaka and perfectly grilled lamb are top picks. The restaurant features an extensive list of Greek wines. The staff can guide your choices.

Kuleto's 🧒 ♿ $$$

221 Powell St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 397-7720* ***Map*** *5 B3*

The exceptionally pretty Kuleto's is primarily frequented by those looking for a people-watching spot. It has an interior salvaged from an elegant old San Francisco hotel. Standard, if not spectacular, Northern Italian dishes make up the menu, including a tasty prosciutto-wrapped pork tenderloin. Enjoy appetizers at the bar for the best view.

La Scene Café & Bar 🧒 ♿ $$$

490 Geary St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 292-6430* ***Map*** *5 B5*

Simple French bistro-style food, such as cassoulet and lamb shank, makes this unpretentious restaurant a favorite with theatergoers. The prix-fixe menu is a bargain. The service is prompt, and the waitstaff are guaranteed to get you out of the door on time.

One Market 🧒 ♿ $$$

1 Market St, 94105 ***Tel*** *(415) 777-5577* ***Map*** *6 D3*

A dark-suited business crowd takes over this airy and sophisticated restaurant for lunch, and a well-dressed evening crowd moves in for dinner. Expect reliably fresh fish, meats with innovative side dishes, and crisp salads. "Chef's table" is reserved seating for four to seven diners who are treated to a special tasting menu ($85–$95 per person).

Palio d'Asti ♿ $$$

640 Sacramento St, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 395-9800* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Palio d'Asti is another favorite of the midday lunch crowd looking for authentic Northern Italian pastas and veal and an excellent tiramisu. The happy hours bring them all back with a free wood-fired pizza for a two-drink minimum. Murals of the medieval Palio horse race decorate the walls.

Sam's Grill and Seafood Restaurant ♿ $$$

374 Bush St, 94104 ***Tel*** *(415) 421-0594* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Founded in 1866, Sam's Grill is the oldest seafood restaurant in the city. It has been serving outstanding sand dabs and other fresh fish to generations of visitors. At midday, one can can hear the murmur of business people closing deals in the high-backed booths. It is closed at weekends.

Tadich Grill 🧒 ♿ $$$

240 California St, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 391-1849* ***Map*** *6 D4*

Founded during the Gold Rush, Tadich Grill is the oldest continuously operating restaurant in the state. It serves excellent *cioppino* and the fresh grilled fish is a tradition among seafood lovers. The wait for a table can be long in the evenings, but lunch is always a good bet.

Bix ♿ 👔 $$$$

56 Gold St, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 433-6300* ***Map*** *5 C3*

The slick Art-Deco interior in this swanky supper club, named after jazz great Bix Beiderbecke, is a sophisticated setting for French-American dishes served impeccably to a tinkling jazz piano. Great martinis and a see-and-be-seen afterwork crowd.

Boulevard 🧒 ♿ 👔 $$$$

1 Mission St, 94105 ***Tel*** *(415) 543-6084* ***Map*** *6 E4*

The artistic creations of chef Nancy Oakes have earned fame for Boulevard, a Bay Area icon. The menu is a cross between American comfort food and French favorites. Try to be seated in the back section to take advantage of the wonderful Bay Bridge views.

Campton Place ♿ 👔 $$$$

340 Stockton St, 94108 ***Tel*** *(415) 955-5555* ***Map*** *5 C4*

A serene room classically styled in the subtle colors of an Italian villa, Campton Place exudes elegance. Some of the best Provençal-Mediterranean fusion food in the area, accompanied by a top-notch wine list. This and the smooth service makes for a special night out.

Silks ♿ 👔 $$$$

222 Sansome St, 94104 ***Tel*** *(415) 986-2020* ***Map*** *5 C4*

Dazzling with silken wall-hangings, floor coverings, and hand-painted silk chandeliers, Silks is a good spot for an intimate conversation and celebrity spotting. The efficient service underscores imaginative New Asian cuisine such as chicken and enoki mushroom spring rolls and spicy grilled shrimp.

Tommy Toy's ♿ 👔 $$$$

655 Montgomery St, 94111 ***Tel*** *(415) 397-4888* ***Map*** *5 C3*

The tasting menu at Tommy Toy's is a great way to enjoy the elegant four-star Chinese cuisine here. There are also sophisticated dishes made with the freshest ingredients, like seafood bisque with fresh coconut. The *nouvelle cuisine*-inspired food is served in a dining room softened with tapestries, etched-glass, antique mirrors, and lamplight.

Coi ♿ $$$$$

373 Broadway, 94133 ***Tel*** *(415) 956-9662* ***Map*** *5 C3*

Local ingredients, skilled preparation, and impeccable presentation come together at this elegant Michelin-starred restaurant to produce superlative, innovative California cuisine. The 11-course prix-fixe menu is not to be missed. Coi is deservedly popular, and reservations are highly recommended.

Key to Price Guide *see p228* **Key to Symbols** *see back cover flap*

Michael Minna
♿ 👔 $$$$$

335 Powell St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 397-9222* ***Map*** *5 B4*

Replacing the venerable Oak Room at St. Francis Hotel, this restaurant serves a new American prix-fixe menu built around a single ingredient prepared in three different styles. The eponymous chef, who was formerly at Aqua, also offers American classics along with 2,000 wines. The surroundings are ultra-luxurious.

CIVIC CENTER

Mifune
🚸 ♿ $

1737 Post St, 94115 ***Tel*** *(415) 922-0337* ***Map*** *4 E4*

Big steaming bowls of Japanese-style noodle soups delivered to your table within minutes of ordering make this Japantown hub a favorite for fans of fresh food and those with limited time. Mifune also serves bento boxes and other non-soup items.

Caffè Delle Stelle
🚸 ♿ $$

395 Hayes St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 252-1110* ***Map*** *4 F5*

Set in a modern, industrial space and serving hearty Tuscan specialties, this Hayes Valley institution has attracted a huge local following. Recalling a neighborhood grocery store in Italy, with its lively ambiance and rock-bottom pricing, it is easy to see why diners flock to this popular eatery.

Absinthe Brasserie and Bar
♿ ⛱ $$$

398 Hayes Street, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 551-1590* ***Map*** *3 B5*

Recreating the 1940s era, this dark romantic setting is among the best European-style brasseries in town. Vintage cabaret music and cocktails are on the menu, along with an array of oysters, the best French onion soup, and hearty bistro food such as cassoulet, slow-cooked pork, and cinnamon-braised lamb. The wine list is excellent.

Indigo
🚸 ♿ $$$

687 McAllister St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 673-9353* ***Map*** *4 F5*

With its cool, blue-themed interior, Indigo lives up to its name. The restaurant is celebrated for its phenomenal wine list and new American menu. The best bargain offered is the Wine Dinner after 8pm, with specially chosen wines and champagnes to accompany and enhance the chef's specialties.

Jardiniere
♿ 👔 $$$$$

300 Grove St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 861-5555* ***Map*** *4 5F*

Thoughtful, efficient service, elegant atmosphere, and sumptuous California-inspired French food make the popular Jardinière a top choice for special occasions. The jazz duo plays quietly in the background while diners enjoy onion *tarte* and a Dubonnet from the mahogany and marble bar.

HAIGHT ASHBURY AND THE MISSION

Ali Baba's Cave
🚸 ♿ $

531 Haight St, 94117 ***Tel*** *(415) 255-7820* ***Map*** *10 E9*

Don't be fooled by the low-key vibe at this counter service restaurant – one bite of the perfectly seasoned roasted lamb kebab, crispy falafel, creamy hummus, and other Middle Eastern delights, and you will be hooked. The cave-like interior, with low tables and floor pillows, is intimate and cozy.

Axum Café
🚸 ♿ $

698 Haight St, 94117 ***Tel*** *(415) 252-7912* ***Map*** *10 D1*

Considered to be the best place in the city to sample Ethiopian food, Axum Café is also popular for its rock-bottom prices. Primarily a hole-in-the wall, it serves spicy and abundant portions of meat and vegetable stews and pancake-like bread, *injera*.

Cha Cha Cha
🚸 ♿ $

2327 Mission St, 94110 ***Tel*** *(415) 648-0504* ***Map*** *10 F3*

As much a lively nightlife scene as it is a restaurant, Cha Cha Cha serves small plates, from black mussels to fried calamari, and excellent sangria against a background of foot-tapping recorded Latin music. Reservations are advised, as it gets crowded on Friday and Saturday nights.

La Taqueria
🚸 ♿ $

2889 Mission St, 94110 ***Tel*** *(415) 285-7117* ***Map*** *10 F4*

Flavorful marinated beef, pork or chicken layered with firm, tasty beans (rice on request), fresh lettuce, and tomato make for perfect burritos, at great prices. Another specialty at La Taqueria is the guacamole. The cafeteria-style line moves fast. Table seating is often filled during lunch, but the turnover is quick.

Memphis Minnie's BBQ Joint

🚸 ♿ $

576 Haight St, 94117 ***Tel*** *(415) 864-7675* ***Map*** *10 E1*

A takeout place and a sit-down restaurant, the Memphis Minnie is all about the slow-smoked southern-style fork-tender sausage, chicken, beef, ribs, and pork, dripping with barbecue sauce. Order a combo, and don't leave out the handcut fries and barbecued brisket chili. In true San-Francisco style, sake is served here.

Pork Store Café

🚸 ♿ ⛱ $

3122 16th St, 94103 ***Tel*** *(415) 626-5523* ***Map*** *10 E2*

Free coffee while standing in line during the weekends perks up diners and softens the wait at Pork Store Café. Big traditional American breakfasts feature the standard pancakes and bacon and eggs. This popular hangout has another branch at 1451 Haight Street.

Rosamunde Sausage Grill

🚸 ♿ $

545 Haight St, 94117 ***Tel*** *(415) 437-6851* ***Map*** *10 E1*

The menu at Rosamunde's specializes in one dish, and excels in it. Order a sausage – in the German, Italian, or Californian style – and layer on the condiments. Eat at the eight-stool counter, take your order to the bar next door, or have Rosamunde's deliver it there for you.

Zazie

🚸 ♿ ⛱ $

941 Cole St, 94117 ***Tel*** *(415) 564-5332* ***Map*** *9 B2*

The neighborhood's most popular brunch spot on the weekends, Zazie also serves bistro-style lunches and dinners daily. The bountiful plates are brought by an attentive staff, and the outdoor patio is a lovely place to enjoy a quiet conversation.

Andalu

🚸 ♿ $$

3198 16th St, 94103 ***Tel*** *(415) 621-2211* ***Map*** *10 E2*

An international version of "small plates" (the Spanish tapas concept) using local, Asian-influenced ingredients is served at this popular restaurant. Andalu also boasts potent sangria and an expansive wine list. Public transport is the best way to get here.

Beretta

♿ $$

1199 Valencia Street, 94110 ***Tel*** *(415) 695-1199* ***Map*** *10 F4*

The inventive cocktails will keep you happy while you wait for a table at this popular Mission hot spot. Exceptional pizzas and contemporary Italian food – like squid-ink risotto with calamari – keep people coming back time and again. The lively bar stays open until late.

Indian Oven

🚸 ♿ $$

233 Fillmore, 94117 ***Tel*** *(415) 626-1628* ***Map*** *10 E1*

An upscale option in an area full of Indian eateries, Indian Oven is notable for its exceptional red and yellow curries, fresh-made *naan*, and flavorful vegetarian dishes. Attentive service performed by costumed waiters enhances the experience.

Pomelo

🚸 ♿ ⛱ $$

1793 Church St, 94131 ***Tel*** *(415) 285-2257* ***Map*** *10 E5*

Noodles and rice plates from around the world – Chinese, Japanese, Indian, African, and European – are on the everchanging menu of Pomelo, a joint frequented by locals. Another location, with indoor seating only, is situated at 92 Judah Street.

Thep Phanom Thai Cuisine

🚸 ♿ $$

400 Waller St, 94117 ***Tel*** *(415) 431-2526* ***Map*** *10 E1*

Dinner reservations are a must at this popular Thai restaurant, though lunch is more flexible. An accommodating staff serves well-seasoned Thai favorites, such as *yum pla muk* (spicy, crisp, cold calamari salad), in a comfortable, homely setting.

Chez Spencer

♿ ⛱ $$$

82 14th Street, 94103 ***Tel*** *(415) 864-2191* ***Map*** *11 A3*

The sophisticated ambience of this French gem is meant to impress. Chez Spencer boasts delectable and authentic food served with an impressive wine list and artisanal cheeses. The heated patio is perfect for a romantic evening. Slightly off the beaten track but worth the effort.

Delfina

🚸 ♿ ⛱ $$$

3621 18th St, 94110 ***Tel*** *(415) 552-4055* ***Map*** *10 E3*

Validated parking in a tough-to-park area makes this restaurant's simple, impeccably seasoned Northern Italian cuisine even better. Ingredients are ultra-fresh, from the morning markets. Delfina is popular, and dining space is at a premium, so get there early.

Zuni Café

♿ $$$

1658 Market St, 94102 ***Tel*** *(415) 552-2522* ***Map*** *10 F1*

Perfect burgers and juicy roasted chicken, cooked over an open fire, complement a menu offering a variety of Mediterranean dishes. The glass walls overlook Market Street, giving a great view of the city's action until it slows down late at night. Brunch also served – don't pass up on their renowned Bloody Mary.

Key to Price Guide *see p228* **Key to Symbols** *see back cover flap*

GOLDEN GATE PARK AND LAND'S END

Khan Toke
🧍 ♿ \$

5937 Geary Blvd, 94118 ***Tel*** *(415) 668-6654* ***Map*** *8 E1*

A temple-like interior and colorfully-dressed staff transports diners to Thailand. Featuring both floor- and Western-style seating, this long-established restaurant serves Thai standards such as spicy, lemon calamari salad and grilled satay with peanut sauce. Top it off with the delicious fried banana and coconut ice cream.

Marnee Thai
🧍 ♿ \$

2225 Irving St, 94122 ***Tel*** *(415) 665-9500* ***Map*** *8 E3*

Large servings of consistently good Thai food have made this a dependable choice. Marnee Thai's green curries are quite good. The tight seating and sometimes-long waits for a table do not deter loyal fans. Another location at 1243 Ninth Avenue expands diners' choices.

Beach Chalet Brewery
🧍 ♿ \$\$

1000 Great Highway, 94122 ***Tel*** *(415) 386-8439* ***Map*** *7 A2*

Craft brews, big hamburgers with side dishes of crispy fries, and a spectacular view of the Pacific make Beach Chalet Brewery a promising destination after a day in Golden Gate Park. The WPA murals on the first floor and carved stone stair-rails are a must-see.

Cajun Pacific Restaurant
🧍 ♿ \$\$

4542 Irving St, 94122 ***Tel*** *(415) 504-6652* ***Map*** *7 B3*

The food here is hot, and the decor just as zesty. The interiors are loaded with atmospheric baubles, from New Orleans-themed posters to funky idols and dolls, to Mardi Gras beads spilling color into the dusky room. Try the crawfish Monica, pasta with succulent curls of crawfish in a Creole-spiced cream sauce. Open Thursday–Saturday evenings only.

Cliff House
🧍 ♿ \$\$

1090 Point Lobos Ave, 94121 ***Tel*** *(415) 386-3330* ***Map*** *7 A1*

The original Cliff House, built in 1863, was where rich San Franciscans brunched. Twice destroyed by fire, the renovated fresh seafood place has the best views of the barking seals below on Seal Rocks. Enjoy cocktails at Zinc Bar. The formal restaurant is open for lunch and dinner, and the informal bistro for all meals daily.

Kabuto Sushi
🧍 ♿ \$\$

5121 Geary Blvd, 94118 ***Tel*** *(415) 752-5652* ***Map*** *8 F1*

Occasional long waits for tables are the only difficulty with this innovative sushi shop that creates artistic, unusual, and tasty combinations from fresh fish and sticky rice. Try the tempura halibut with their special curry sauce. New combinations are invented almost daily, so expect the unexpected.

La Vie
🧍 ♿ \$\$

5830 Geary Blvd, 94121 ***Tel*** *(415) 668-8080* ***Map*** *8 E1*

A wonderful neighborhood find in the outer Richmond area – a good stop before or after a visit to Golden Gate Park – La Vie gets consistently good reviews for its Vietnamese menu prepared and served with a French flair. The flaming beef and prawns are a favorite.

Pacific Café
🧍 ♿ \$\$

7000 Geary Blvd, 94121 ***Tel*** *(415) 387-7091* ***Map*** *7 C1*

Opened in the 1970s, Pacific Café is redolent of the era, down to the stained-glass windows. Good, reliable seafood is served to one's liking. Diners who have to wait for a table are often treated to a glass of wine. There are branches all over the Bay area; this was the original location.

Ton Kiang
🧍 ♿ \$\$

5821 Geary Blvd, 94121 ***Tel*** *(415) 387-8273* ***Map*** *8 E1*

Ton Kiang is one of the best and most popular dim sum restaurants in town – beware of the lines down the block on weekends. The huge variety of dishes is always fresh, and always rolling your way on cart after cart. Full plate dishes are also served.

Aziza
♿ \$\$\$

5800 Geary Blvd, 94121 ***Tel*** *(415) 752-2222* ***Map*** *8 E1*

At Aziza, guests are welcomed by sprinkling rosewater over their hands. Exotic Moroccan specialties, from a fragrant couscous to quail with huckleberry, are brought to the table, as diners lounge on luxourious cushioned seats. The meal is finished with sweet mint tea. On weekends, belly dancers perform while you dine.

Ebisu
🧍 ♿ \$\$\$

1283 Ninth Ave, 94122 ***Tel*** *(415) 566-1770* ***Map*** *8 F3*

Often crowded, this sushi restaurant has visitors lined up to sample what some say is the best and freshest sushi in town, served by laughing, cleaver-flashing chefs at the bar. Ebisu is seafood-as-entertainment, and lines for table space are not uncommon.

The Moss Room
P $$$

55 Music Concourse Drive, 94118 ***Tel*** *(415) 876-6121* ***Map*** *8 F2*

Elegant, modern and sleek, this dining space is befitting of its unique location inside the California Academy of Sciences. The restaurant has a dramatic living wall of fern, moss and stone and the food served is Californian-Mediterranean, inspired by local produce and seasonal ingredients.

SOUTH OF MARKET

Manora's Thai
$

1600 Folsom St, 94103 ***Tel*** *(415) 861-6224* ***Map*** *11 A2*

Diners will find excellent value for money here as Manora's Thai serves generous portions of deliciously spiced soups such as a lemon-flavored shrimp and enoki mushroom combination, seafood plates, and rice-based dishes. The lunch menu offers well-priced specials.

AsiaSF
$$$

201 Ninth St, 94103 ***Tel*** *(415) 255-2742* ***Map*** *11 A2*

The Asian-influenced small dishes served here take a back seat to the floor show, which features cross-dressing male performers in an hourly entertainment fest of songs and skits. Patience is required between courses if your waiter needs to be on stage, belting out a Judy Garland number.

Bizou
$$$

598 Fourth St, 94107 ***Tel*** *(415) 543-2222* ***Map*** *11 C1*

Bizou serves hearty food with a French bistro feel in its airy, warm-toned dining room. Specialties include beef cheek Sainte-Menehould with mustard, watercress and new potatoes. Salads, such as pear-and-frisée, are top choices here. The prix-fixe lunches and dinners are a great bargain.

CoCo 500
$$$

500 Brannan Street, 94107 ***Tel*** *(415) 543-2222* ***Map*** *11 C1*

A pleasant, trendy place to dine when you find yourself South of Market. The fried green beans are famous and worth a try. Save room after lunch or dinner as there is an extensive dessert menu. Since CoCo is located in a more commerical part of town, crowds flock here for lunch. Dinner can be a quieter, but pricier, experience.

Fringale
$$$

570 Fourth St, 94107 ***Tel*** *(415) 543-0573* ***Map*** *11 C1*

Small, noisy, and festive, this lively bistro continues to be a popular choice for its good French-Basque cooking and friendly staff. The traditional menu features grilled meats, including succulent lamb-based dishes, with fresh breads and some seafood items.

South Park Café
$$$

108 South Park, 94107 ***Tel*** *(415) 495-7275* ***Map*** *11 C1*

Though South Park Café has lost some of its former sparkle, the bistro-style food in this simply decorated spot remains delicious. Its menu features soups and sandwiches as well as more complicated fare such as roast duck breast. The outdoor seating on sunny days looks out on South Park.

Bacar
$$$$

448 Brannan St, 94107 ***Tel*** *(415) 904-4100* ***Map*** *11 C1*

Industrial interiors and cool jazz in the background provide urban sleekness to this American-fusion restaurant-lounge. Seafood is a specialty here and includes such dishes as halibut with morel mushrooms. There is a three-story wine cellar that runs the length of the restaurant and boasts the most extensive international wine list in the city.

BERKELEY

The Cheese Board Pizza
$

1512 Shattuck Avenue, 94709 ***Tel*** *(510) 549-3183*

Lines can be long at this cheap but fantastic pizza shop. Toppings vary daily and range from the classics like basil and mozzarella to potato, goat cheese and asparagus. In typical Berkeley form, this is a co-op business so prices can be kept down. Don't miss their cheese shop and baked goods outpost next door for some take-home treats.

Vik's Chaat Corner
$

2390 Fourth Street, 94710 ***Tel*** *(510) 644-4412*

An exceptional, value-for-money place for incredibly delicious, authentic Indian food bursting with unique flavors. It's counter service only here but the food more than makes up for it. Be warned: the plates are small, so you will be tempted to over order.

Key to Price Guide *see p228* **Key to Symbols** *see back cover flap*

Corso Trattoria $$

1788 Shattuck, 94709 ***Tel*** *(510) 704-8004*

Parking spots can be tough to find at this popular Italian destination in Berkeley, but the rustic, authentic food is worth a few trips around the block. Fare includes large, delectable pizzas, pastas and risottos so make sure you don't fill up from the generous bread bowl.

Sea Salt $$

2512 San Pablo Avenue, 94702 ***Tel*** *(510) 883-1720*

It is well worth travelling over the Bay Bridge to this exciting, lively seafood restaurant for the seven-days-a-week Happy Hour menu featuring $1 oysters. The casual atmosphere makes you feel at home while you enjoy deliciously prepared seafood. Sit outside on the patio for an even more relaxed experience.

Chez Panisse $$$$$

1517 Shattuck Ave, 94709 ***Tel*** *(510) 548-5525*

Alice Waters, the grand mistress of California-style fresh food cooking, has trained a multitude of chefs out of this kitchen. The food still reflects her insistence that the quality of the produce is what matters above all. You will not find over-powering sauces here – just lots of flavor. Advance reservations are required. For a more casual meal, try the café upstairs.

FARTHER AFIELD

Fenton's Creamery $

4226 Piedmont Ave, 94611 ***Tel*** *(510) 658-7000*

Mounds of homemade ice cream in a kaleidoscope of flavors, from peppermint stick to tin roof (vanilla with fudge sauce and peanuts), make their way into cones, banana splits big as your head, and other fountain favorites. Fenton's Creamery also has simple sandwiches, such as tuna and egg salad.

Sprout Café $

168 University Ave, Palo Alto, 94301 ***Tel*** *(650) 323-7622*

Customize your own salad with fresh ingredients and upscale toppings at this airy spot in downtown Palo Alto. If you're not feeling creative, you can opt for one of their signature salads, such as the Kyoto ahi tuna (with somen noodles, edamame, and miso sesame dressing). Also on the menu are sandwiches and soups.

Amber India $$

377 Santana Row, Ste 1140, 95128 ***Tel*** *(408) 248-5400*

The sleek outlet of an old Mountain View favorite, Amber India is popular for its lip-smacking butter chicken as well as exceptional – and bustling – lunch and weekend buffets. Table settings of fine china and swift and silent service complete the picture.

Dipsea Café $$

200 Shoreline Hwy, 94941 ***Tel*** *(415) 381-0298*

For those craving a plate-bending serving of blueberry pancakes with chicken-apple sausage, or a big juicy burger, Dipsea Café is where the search ends. On Richardson Bay, looking out on a wetland preserve, the setting could not be prettier. It is open for breakfast and lunch only.

O Chame $$

1830 Fourth St, 94710 ***Tel*** *(510) 841-8783*

One of the several restaurants among the shops on trendy Fourth Street, O Chame serves carefully prepared, artfully arranged traditional Japanese dishes such as teriyaki salmon and miso soup. The interior decor is simple, thoughtfully creating a refuge from the busy street outside.

Olema Inn $$$

10,000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, 94950 ***Tel*** *(415) 663-9559*

An 1876 inn and former stagecoach stop along Highway 1, Olema Inn provides a dramatic setting for simple and elegant meals made from fresh local ingredients. Specialties such as Tomales Bay oysters are often featured on the menu. Ideal for a meal after sightseeing in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Pelican Inn $$$

10 Pacific Way, 94965 ***Tel*** *(415) 383-6000*

In a setting that could have been airlifted from the Cotswolds, this stone-and-wood restaurant/inn serves the best in British cooking such as a superb shepherd's pie, along with warm Guinness on draft. Lunch and dinner are served daily in summer. The restaurant is closed in winter.

Lark Creek Inn $$$$

234 Magnolia Ave, 94939 ***Tel*** *(415) 924-7766*

Uber-chef Bradley Ogden's premier restaurant is tucked away in a lovely redwood grove in the charming town of Larkspur. The menu is a tribute to fresh local meats and produce, and elevates the concept of "home cooking" by several notches.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

CARMEL Duarte Tavern $

202 Stage Rd (Pescadero Rd), 94060 ***Tel*** *(650) 879-0464*

No scenic drive south along coastal Route 1 is complete without a stop at Duarte Tavern, an old roadhouse famed for typical American cuisine, including homemade soups. The house specialty is a pie made with olallieberries, a cross between a loganberry and a Texas dewberry (similar to blackberries) grown locally.

CARMEL Flying Fish Grill $$$

Carmel Plaza, Mission St ***Tel*** *(831) 625-1962*

Despite its location in the heart of a bustling shopping center, Flying Fish Grill remains the preference of those looking for fresh seafood in an informal setting. The small, underwater-themed restaurant, run by friendly owners, serves seafood grilled in a Japanese-influenced style.

CARMEL Anton & Michel $$$$

Mission St between Ocean & Sevent ***Tel*** *(831) 624-2406*

Carmel's "grand dame" since 1980, it has been serving a classic Continental menu and complementing it with an excellent wine list. Specialties include steaks and seafood paella. Diners may sit by a roaring fire or, during the summer, around a fountain in the picturesque courtyard.

CARMEL Marinus $$$$$

415 Carmel Valley Rd ***Tel*** *(831) 658-3500*

Elegant and rustic at the same time, the Bernardus Lodge dining room is set in the valley away from the ocean, and draws diners and those seeking a getaway. Delicious California-French *nouvelle cuisine* is backed by a wine list that includes Bernardus Winery bottlings.

LAKE TAHOE Alexander's $

High Camp, Squaw Valley, Olympic Valley, 96146 ***Tel*** *(530) 452-7278*

Getting to Alexander's is more than half the fun – diners must ride the Squaw Valley cable tram 2,000 ft (610 m) over the valley floor to reach this restaurant above the valley. The food is ordinary, but there is a special menu for children. This is a fun place to perch after skiing all day.

LAKE TAHOE Fire Sign Café $

1785 West Lake Blvd, 96145 ***Tel*** *(530) 583-0871*

Reputed to have the best breakfasts on the lake (try the Eggs Benedict with smoked salmon and spinach), this cheerful café is open for breakfast and lunch seven days a week. A variety of fresh-baked muffins grace the menu every day, and chunky soups and fresh sandwiches appeal to the lunch crowd.

LAKE TAHOE Dory's Oar Restaurant $$

1041 Fremont Ave, 96150 ***Tel*** *(530) 541-6603* ***Fax*** *530 541-5332*

Set in a charming white clapboard house, Dory's formal dining room prepares fresh seafood and steaks such as pan-roasted red snapper and grilled New Zealand lamb loin. Upstairs, the informal Tudor Pub serves Guinness and a number of other beers on draft, plus plates and snacks at pub prices.

LAKE TAHOE Hunter William Bacchi's Inn $$$

2905 Lake Forest Rd, 96145 ***Tel*** *(530) 583-3324*

Opened in 1935, Hunter William Bacchi's Inn is Lake Tahoe's oldest restaurant. The menu features Italian classics, such as veal Parmigiana, as part of a belt-busting complete dinner, with soup, salad, antipasti, and a side of ravioli, spaghetti or tortellini. Wine is extra.

MENDOCINO Heron's by the Sea $$

32096 N Harbor Dr, 95437 ***Tel*** *(707) 962-0680*

Considered the best for the least on the north coast, Heron's presents the freshest seafood. You can watch your food being caught from the deck, outside under the bridge. Hidden away on a pier, the small clapboard structure also serves full breakfasts.

MENDOCINO Mendo Bistro $$

301 N Main St, 95437 ***Tel*** *(707) 964-4974*

The locally popular Mendo Bistro has a menu that changes with the seasons, making the most of local produce. Specialties include a salad made with warm walnut-crusted goats' cheese and citrus. An all-Mendocino wine list accompanies award-winning crabcakes and meats, cooked and sauced to your taste.

MENDOCINO Albion River Inn $$$

3790 North Hwy 1, 95410 ***Tel*** *(707) 937-1919*

The sun setting on the Pacific is a spectacular backdrop for relishing Albion River Inn's fresh and simple cuisine. The restaurant/inn offers lodging if you overindulge in tasting their large collection of scotch whiskies. Set on a cliff above the sea, it offers views of passing whales in winter.

MENDOCINO The Moosse Café

♿ ⛱ $$$

390 Kasten Street, 95460 ***Tel*** *(707) 937-4323*

Charming ambience, good food – much of it made with local, organic produce and seafood – and classic Mendocino vibes infuse this refuge of a restaurant. The dining room is cozy and quaint and occupies the ground floor of a popular B&B. Portions are very generous.

MENDOCINO Victorian Gardens

🚸 ♿ $$$$$

14409 North Hwy 1, 95459 ***Tel*** *(707) 882-3606*

Set in an exclusive bed-and-breakfast inn on a 92-acre farm, the house itself is out of a fairytale; a mini-castle decked out in fine period decor. Prix-fixe dinners, based on fresh ingredients, are served nightly in the elegant 16-seat dining room at Victorian Gardens.

NAPA WINE COUNTRY Cook St Helena

🚸 ♿ $$

1310 Main St, 94574 ***Tel*** *(707) 963-7088*

A casual eatery, Cook St Helena serves crisp and fresh classic salads, pasta and meat dishes. Good food, decent prices (especially for the area), and friendly service make it a regular stop for locals. The homemade lasagna and eggplant Parmigiana are much loved.

NAPA WINE COUNTRY Willow Wood Market Café

🚸 ♿ $$

9020 Graton Rd, 95444 ***Tel*** *(707) 522-8372*

A combination café/shop, this hippie-inspired café in the small town of Graton is the antithesis of slick Wine Country restaurants. It serves hearty breakfasts, lovingly-prepared lattes, homemade soups, innovative sandwiches, and bakery items that will not put a dent in your wallet.

NAPA WINE COUNTRY Tra Vigne

🚸 ♿ ⛱ $$$

1050 Charter Oak Ave, 94574 ***Tel*** *(707) 823-0233*

Reminiscent of a Tuscan villa, this quintessential Wine Country eatery is reputed for its divine interpretations of Italian specialties with an inspired wine list. The bar is a hot spot for local vintners. Drive down to the end of Charter Oak Avenue to the old olive oil factory to pick up picnic items.

NAPA WINE COUNTRY Ubuntu

♿ ⛱ $$$

1140 Main Street, 94559 ***Tel*** *(707) 251-5656*

Even die-hard meat-eaters are raving about this all-vegetarian restaurant in Napa Valley, known for its fresh local ingredients and yoga studio. The dishes are inventive, flavorful and unique. Show up in your best attire or yoga pants and you will be treated equally as well by the friendly, knowledgable staff.

NAPA WINE COUNTRY French Laundry

♿ ⛱ 🍸 $$$$$

6640 Washington St, 94599 ***Tel*** *(707) 944-2380*

French Laundry, the crème-de-la-crème of Wine Country restaurants, is hard to get in, unless a reservation is made well in advance. The impeccable interpretations of French *nouvelle cuisine*, flawless service, exquisite formal gardens, and an understated interior, all make it difficult to leave.

YOSEMITE Yosemite Lodge Food Court

🚸 ♿ ⛱ $

Rte 140, Yosemite Village, 95389 ***Tel*** *(1) (800) 559-5000*

A low-cost alternative to the valley's upscale restaurants, the food court features hot breakfasts, pastries, pastas, pizzas as well as a grill with burgers, hot dogs, fries, and sandwiches. The menu also has vegetarian and meat entrées and a selection of desserts. Open year-round for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

YOSEMITE Columbia City Hotel

🚸 ♿ 🍸 $$

22768 Main St, Columbia State Historic Park, 95310 ***Tel*** *(209) 532-1479*

A Wine Spectator Restaurant award-winner since 1986, Columbia City Hotel's kitchen prepares traditional favorites. The historic Gold Rush-era hotel is a training facility for future chefs. Special two-course dinners cost $14 per person. Open mid-Sep to mid-Nov, from Wednesday to Thursday. Student cookbook menus available.

YOSEMITE Ahwahnee

🚸 ♿ 🍸 $$$

One Ahwahnee Rd, Yosemite Village, 95389 ***Tel*** *(209) 372-1489*

Ahwahnee is the queen of the National Park lodges, with a stunning valley view, soaring beamed ceilings, and a sophisticated menu. Lunch might include a chili-rubbed chicken sandwich. For dinner, try the roast organic pork tenderloin with a pecan praline crust. Casual attire is allowed for breakfast and lunch.

YOSEMITE Wawona Lodge

🚸 ♿ ⛱ $$$

Rte 41, South Park, 95389 ***Tel*** *(209) 375-1425*

Victorian with a charming rustic flare, the lodge serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner when the hotel is open. The menu includes flatiron steak, and savory smoked trout chowder. Each Saturday in summer, diners gather for a pit-fired barbecue dinner. Open seven days a week.

YOSEMITE Erna's Elderberry House

🚸 ♿ $$$$$

48688 Victoria Ln (Hwy 41), 93644 ***Tel*** *(559) 683-6800*

Part of the Chateau de Sureau inn, Erna's Elderberry House is a destination in itself. An extravagant fine-dining menu includes six courses of superb Continental cuisine, from *amusée bouche* (such as venison-chanterelle terrine) to *delice du patissier*. The menu changes daily.

San Francisco's Cafés

You need never search long for a place in which to quench your thirst in San Francisco. The city is known to be a paradise for coffee-lovers, as it teems with excellent cafés. Connoisseurs should head for those clustered in North Beach and the Mission District, to sample and enjoy the delights on offer.

CAFÉS

With so many cafés from which to choose, you could spend days sampling several and never visit the same place twice. One local purveyor, **Peet's Coffee & Tea**, has offered dark, strong coffee for four decades. **Emporio Rulli Il Caffè** is ensconced on Union Square. The **Caffè Trieste**, in North Beach, is an old bohemian haunt that serves excellent coffee. It also has a jukebox that plays songs from Italian opera, and family members who sing and play instruments on occasional weekend afternoons. Columbus Avenue's **Caffè Greco**, **Caffè Puccini**, and **Caffè Roma** are also well worth a visit. This neighborhood, as well as SoMa, is also a draw for many visitors because it is dotted with roasteries.

Beatniks frequented tiny **Mario's Bohemian Cigar Store Café** with Washington Square views; try a double latte with focaccia. **Vesuvio** *(see p270)* serves superb espresso. At **Stella Pastry**, order cappuccino with the specialty rum, marsala, and sherry zabaglione sponge cake, *Sacripantina*.

In the Mission District try **Café La Bohème**, frequented by the San Franciscan literary set. The **Café Flore** on Market Street is very stylish, while **Mocha's Café**, near the Civic Center, has terrific coffee and pastries. Francophiles will appreciate **Café Claude**, an attractive French café, with old furnishings rescued from a Paris bar that is tucked away in an alley near Union Square. **Café de la Presse**, across from the Chinatown Gateway, is the place to catch up with international periodicals. SoMa coffee and food choices range from the SFMOMA **Caffè Museo** and **Moto Java** to the combination café, entertainment venue and laundromat **Brainwash**. The **Blue Danube Coffee House** and **Toy Boat Dessert Café** are situated on Clement Street. **Momi Toby's Revolution Café & Art Bar** combines Hayes Valley java and artwork and live music. At **Frjtz**, the crêpes lend a Belgian tone to coffee drinking. Check out the Inner Sunset District art and entertainment with your coffee at **Irving St Café** or the heavenly aromas at the **Beanery**.

DIRECTORY

CAFÉS

Beanery
1307 9th Ave.
Map 8 F3.
Tel *661-1255.*

Blue Danube Coffee House
306 Clement St.
Map 3 A5.
Tel *221-9041.*

Brainwash
1122 Folsom St.
Map 11 A1.
Tel *431-9274.*

Café La Bohème
3318 24th St.
Map 10 F4.
Tel *643-0481.*

Café Claude
7 Claude La.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *392-3505.*

Café Flore
2298 Market St.
Map 10 D2.
Tel *621-8579.*

Caffè Greco
423 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 B3.
Tel *397-6261.*

Caffè Museo
151 3rd St. **Map** 6 D5.
Tel *357-4500.*

Café de la Presse
352 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *398-2680.*

Caffè Puccini
411 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 B3.
Tel *989-7033.*

Caffè Roma
526 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 B3.
Tel *296-7942.*
Also: 885 Bryant St.
Map 11 B2.
Tel *296-7662.*

Caffè Trieste
601 Vallejo St.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *392-6739.*

Emporio Rulli Il Caffè
at Union Square.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *433-1122.*

Frjtz
581 Hayes St.
Map 4 E5.
Tel *864-7654.*

Irving St Café
716 Irving St.
Map 9 A2.
Tel *664-1366.*

Mario's Bohemian Cigar Store Café
566 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 B2.
Tel *362-0536.*

Mocha's Café
505 Van Ness Ave.
Map 4 F5.
Tel *437-2233.*

Momi Toby's Revolution Café & Art Bar
528 Laguna St.
Map 10 E1.
Tel *626-1508.*

Moto Java
498 Ninth St.
Map 11 A2.
Tel *786-5109.*

Peet's Coffee & Tea
22 Battery St.
Map 6 D4.
Tel *981-4550.*

Stella Pastry
446 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 B3.
Tel *986-2914.*

Toy Boat Dessert Café
401 Clement St.
Map 3 A5.
Tel *751-7505.*

Vesuvio
255 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *362-3370.*

Light Meals and Snacks

If you do not have the time to sit down for a full meal, you can get a quick bite to eat almost anywhere in San Francisco. Many establishments serve good fast food at low prices, but if you look for them, you can find places that offer something a little special.

BREAKFAST

Coffee and pastries, or bacon and eggs are easy to find in San Francisco, or you can have a full American breakfast that will sustain you all day. **Sears Fine Foods** in Union Square is an institution, popular for its wonderful early morning meals. **Le Petit Café** serves great brunches on weekends. Hotel dining rooms offer good breakfasts, as do a few restaurants *(see pp228–41)*.

DELIS

If you want a perfect corned beef on rye sandwich try **David's**, the largest and most central delicatessen in San Francisco. **Tommy's Joint** in the Civic Center, **Miller's East Coast Deli** in Russian Hill, and **Molinari's** in North Beach are also worth a visit. The **Real Food Deli/ Grocery**, also in Russian Hill, specializes in organic food.

HAMBURGER PLACES

While you can get a quick-hamburger and fries at all of the usual franchises, you would do better to try one of San Francisco's more unique places. The **Grubstake**, housed in a converted streetcar, is open late, **Mel's Drive-In** is a 1950s-style café, and **Louis'** has unbeatable views over the remains of the Sutro Baths *(see p157)*. **Bill's Place** in the Richmond District offers two dozen different burgers, all of which are named after local celebrities while **Sparky's** near the Castro serves up juicy burgers 24 hours a day.

PIZZERIAS

San Francisco has many good pizzerias, mostly in North Beach. Choose between the traditional **Tommaso's**, the popular **North Beach Pizza** and the hectic, but excellent, **Golden Boy**. For a really exotic pizza, try **Pauline's** in the Mission District or the chain pizzeria **Extreme Pizza** in Pacific Heights.

MEXICAN FOOD

Mexican food, which is tasty and often extremely inexpensive, is sold by vendors all over the city. For a delicious snack, try **El Balazo**, **Pancho Villa**, **Roosevelt's Tamale Parlor**, or **El Metate**. For a treat before or after a movie, try **El Super Burrito** – great prices and large portions.

DIRECTORY

BREAKFAST

Le Petit Café
1 Maritime Plaza.
Map 6 D3.
Tel *951-8514.*

Sears Fine Foods
493 Powell St.
Map 5 B4.
Tel *986-1160.*

DELIS

David's
474 Geary St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *276-5950.*

Miller's East Coast Deli
1725 Polk St.
Map 4 F3.
Tel *563-3542.*

Molinari's
373 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *421-2337.*

Real Food Deli/Grocery
2140 Polk St.
Map 5 A3.
Tel *673-7420.*

Tommy's Joint
1101 Geary Blvd.
Map 5 A5.
Tel *775-4216.*

HAMBURGER PLACES

Bill's Place
2315 Clement St.
Map 2 D5.
Tel *221-5262.*

Grubstake
1525 Pine St.
Map 4 F4.
Tel *673-8268.*

Louis'
902 Point Lobos Ave.
Map 7 A1.
Tel *387-6330.*

Mel's Drive-In
3355 Geary Blvd.
Map 3 B5.
Tel *387-2244.*

Sparky's
242 Church St.
Map 10 E2.
Tel *626-8666.*

PIZZERIAS

Extreme Pizza
1908 Union St.
Map 4 D3.
Tel *929-8234.*

Golden Boy
542 Green St.
Map 5 B3.
Tel *982-9738.*

North Beach Pizza
800 Stanyan St.
Map 9 B2.
Tel *751-2300.*
Also: 1462 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C2.
Tel *433-2444.*

Pauline's
260 Valencia St.
Map 10 F2.
Tel *552-2050.*

Tommaso's
1042 Kearny St
at Broadway.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *398-9696.*

MEXICAN FOOD

El Balazo
1654 Haight St.
Map 9 B1.
Tel *864-2140.*

El Metate
2406 Bryant St.
Map 11 A4.
Tel *641-7209.*

El Super Burrito
1200 Polk St.
Map 5 A5.
Tel *771-9700.*

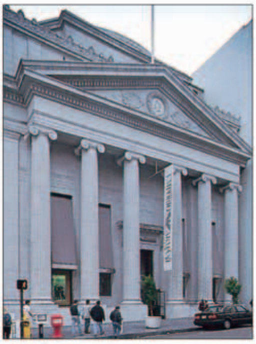
Pancho Villa
3071 16th St.
Map 10 F2.
Tel *864-8840.*

Roosevelt's Tamale Parlor
2817 24th St.
Map 10 F4.
Tel *864-2600.*

SHOPPING IN SAN FRANCISCO

Shopping in San Francisco is much more than simply making a purchase, it's an experience that allows a glimpse into the city's culture. An enormous range of goods is available here, from the practical to the eccentric, and you can take your time in choosing, because browsers are generally welcome, particularly in the city's many small specialty shops and boutiques. If you want convenience, the shopping centers, malls and department stores are excellent. For those in search of local color, each neighborhood shopping district has a charm and personality of its own.

Clock over entrance to Tiffany's


Emporio Armani *(see p251)*

WHEN TO SHOP

Most shops in San Francisco open at 10am and stay open until 8pm, Monday to Saturday. Many malls and department stores also remain open until later in the evening and on Sundays. Stores are quietest in the mornings, but can be hectic at lunchtime (noon–2pm), on Saturdays, and during sales and holidays.

HOW TO PAY

Major credit cards are accepted at most shops, although there will often be a minimum purchase price. Traveler's checks must be accompanied by identification, and foreign checks or foreign currency are rarely taken. Some smaller shops will allow only cash purchases.

CONSUMER RIGHTS AND SERVICES

Keep your receipts as proof of purchase. Each shop sets and displays its own return and exchange policies. Shops cannot charge a fee to those using credit cards, but you may get a discount for cash. If you have a problem that shop management cannot solve, the Consumer Protection Unit or the California Department of Consumer Affairs may help.

Useful numbers Consumer Protection Unit ***Tel*** *551-9575.* California Department of Consumer Affairs ***Tel*** *(916) 445-0660.*

SALES

End-of-the-month, holiday, and pre-season sales are common in many stores. Keep an eye out for advertisements in local newspapers where these are announced, especially mid-week and Sundays. Shop early for the best bargains, and beware of "Going out of business" signs – these can be left up for years. Some are legitimate sales; just ask at nearby shops.

TAXES

A sales tax of 9.5 percent is added to all purchases made in San Francisco. Note that this is not refundable to overseas visitors, unlike the European Value Added Tax (VAT), but you are exempt if your purchases are forwarded to any destination outside California. Foreign visitors may have to pay duty at customs on arrival home.

SHOPPING TOURS

Serious shoppers who want to be guided to the best shops for their own particular needs may want to go on a special tour. These are organized by companies such as A Simple Elegance Shopping Tour or Shopper Stopper Shopping Tours. A guide takes you from shop to shop and knows where to find unusual items.

Useful numbers A Simple Elegance Shopping Tour ***Tel*** *661-0110.* Shopper Stopper Shopping Tours ***Tel*** *(707) 829–1597.*

MALLS AND SHOPPING CENTERS

In contrast with a great many suburban shopping malls, those of San Francisco have character, and one or two are of architectural interest.

Flags and pagoda at the Japan Center

Flower stall on Union Square

The Embarcadero Center *(see p110)* has more than 125 shops, in an area covering eight blocks. Ghirardelli Square *(see p83)* was a chocolate factory from 1893 until the early 1960s. It is now a mall that is popular with visitors, and houses over 70 restaurants and shops, overlooking San Francisco Bay.

The San Francisco Shopping Centre *(see p117)* has nine levels and contains more than 65 shops. PIER 39 *(see p82)* is a market place on the waterfront, with restaurants, a double-decker Venetian merry-go-round, a marina and many specialty shops. In the Cannery *(see p83),* located at Fisherman's Wharf, you will find a variety of charming small shops, while the Crocker Galleria *(see p116)* is one of the city's most spectacular malls, with three floors under a high glass dome built around a central plaza.

The Japan Center *(see p128)*, complete with pagoda, offers exotic foods, goods and art from the East, as well as a Japanese-style hotel and traditional baths. The Rincon Center *(see p113),* with a 90-ft (27-m) water column at its center, is an Art Deco haven for shopping and eating.

DEPARTMENT STORES

Most of San Francisco's major department stores are in or near Union Square. They are huge emporia that offer their customers an outstanding selection of goods and services. The frequent sales can get quite frantic as locals and visitors jostle for bargains. All sorts of extra services are available to make shoppers feel pampered, including cloakrooms where you can leave your belongings, assistants to guide you around the store, free gift wrapping, and beauty salons offering treatments.

Macy's department store spans two city blocks. It stocks an enormous range of goods, all beautifully presented and sold by an enthusiastic sales force. It offers all sorts of extra facilities, including a currency exchange and an interpreting service. The men's department is particularly extensive.

Neiman Marcus is another stylish emporium, housed in a modern building that caused a furor when it was opened in 1982, replacing a popular store built in the 1890s. The huge stained-glass dome in its Rotunda Restaurant was part of the original building, and is well worth coming to see. **Nordstrom**, good for fashion and shoes, is known in the city as the "store-in-the-sky" as it is located on the top five floors of the innovative Westfield Shopping Centre. **Bloomingdales** offers a huge range of designer labels, luxury handbags, accessories, cosmetics, and shoes.

Another famous department store in the Bay Area is **Kohl's**, which carries quality clothing, shoes, accessories, and jewelry at discounted prices.

BEST BUYS

Gourmet shoppers should look for seafood, one of the city's specialties. Wine from California is another good buy, particularly in the Napa Valley *(see pp190–91)*. You will find blue jeans at competitive prices, also vintage clothing, ethnic art, books and records.

CITY LIGHTS BOOKS
CITY LIGHTS BOOKSTORE

City Lights Bookstore *(see p254)*, on Columbus Avenue

ADDRESSES

Bloomingdales
865 Market St. **Map** 5 C5.
Tel *856-5300.*

Kohl's
1200 El Camino Real,
Colma, CA 94014.
Tel *(650) 992-0155.*

Macy's
Stockton and O'Farrell Sts.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *397-3333.*

Neiman Marcus
150 Stockton St. **Map** 5 C5.
Tel *362-3900.*

Nordstrom
Westfield Shopping Centre,
865 Market St. **Map** 5 C5.
Tel *243-8500.*

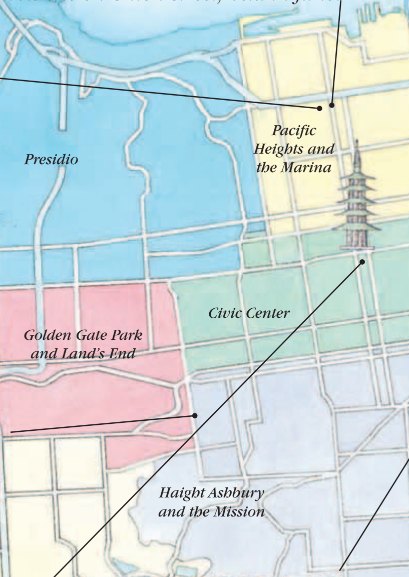
Display of goods inside Gump's department store *(see p249)*

San Francisco's Best: Shopping

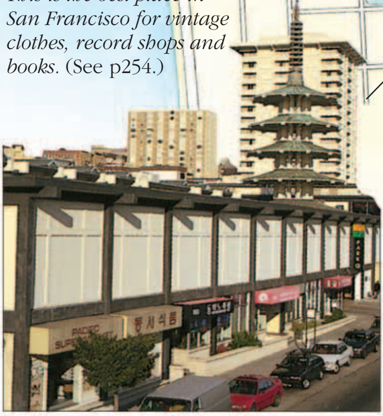
It is the diversity of San Francisco's stores that makes buying anything here such an adventure. Some of the best shopping areas are described below, each reflecting a different aspect of the city. Window shoppers will find glittering displays in Union Square, while bargain hunters should visit the South of Market outlets.

Street Fairs
Arts, crafts and specialty foods are sold from booths at neighborhood fairs like this one on Union Street, held in June.

Union Street
Clusters of boutiques in converted Victorian houses sell antiques, books and clothes on this busy street. (See p254.)


Presidio
Pacific Heights and the Marina
Civic Center
Golden Gate Park and Land's End
Haight Ashbury and the Mission

Haight Street
This is the best place in San Francisco for vintage clothes, record shops and books. (See p254.)



Japan Center
You can buy authentic food and goods from Japan here, and visit Japanese bars and galleries. (See p128.)

Member of Antique Dealers Association of California

Jackson Square Antique Shops
Lovers of antiques will enjoy browsing in the shops in Jackson Square. (See p254.)

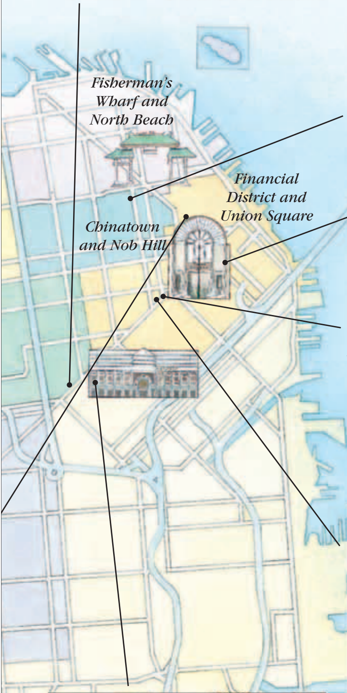
0 kilometers 2

0 miles 1

UN Plaza
Named after the signing of the United Nations Charter, this is the site of the twice-weekly Farmers' Market. (See p256.)

Grant Avenue
With its painted balconies, souvenir shops and bars, this is Chinatown's main tourist street. (See p256.)

Crocker Galleria
Elegant shops fill the three floors of this impressive modern mall, with daylight flooding in through the glass roof. You can picnic in the rooftop gardens on sunny days. (See p245.)

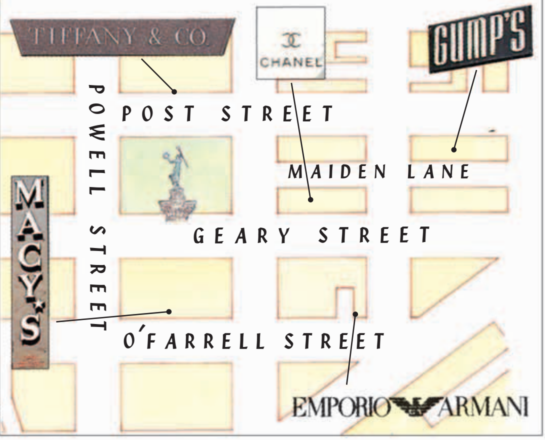

Fisherman's Wharf and North Beach
Financial District and Union Square
Chinatown and Nob Hill

Saks Fifth Avenue
A department store synonymous with exclusive style and elegance. (See p245.)

Nordstrom
This fashion store is located in the gleaming Westfield Centre, which has 400 shops filling nine floors. (See p245.)

SHOPPING AROUND UNION SQUARE

Serious shoppers should concentrate on the blocks bordered by Geary, Powell and Post streets, and on the surrounding blocks between market and Sutter streets. Here luxurious shops and inexpensive boutiques sell everything from designer sheets to pedigree dogs to souvenirs. Big hotels, splendid restaurants and colorful flower stalls all add to the atmosphere.


TIFFANY & CO.
CHANEL
GUMP'S
POWELL STREET
POST STREET
MAIDEN LANE
MACY'S
GEARY STREET
O'FARRELL STREET
EMPORIO ARMANI

San Francisco Specials

Entrepreneurial spirit in San Francisco is strong and innovative. Owners of small shops, designers and buyers take much pride in bringing unusual and handcrafted wares to their customers, and will often tell you the histories of these original items. From comic postcards to fine handcrafted Florentine paper, and from Chinese herbal teas to high-tech electronic gadgets, all kinds of goods are available. Nestling in hidden corners or clustered with other tiny shops, these specialty outlets create an environment that makes shopping in San Francisco an exciting experience.

SPECIALTY SHOPS

Since the Gold Rush days, **Malm Luggage**, a family-owned and operated shop for luggage, briefcases and small leather goods, has kept its reputation for excellence. At **Comix Experience** you can find a range of comic books and memorabilia from the newest offerings to antique, very expensive oldies.

Exquisite Italian ceramics (majolica) are on display at **Biordi Art Imports** in North Beach, where handpainted dishware, vases and platters of all sizes are for sale. Those who would like to experience the authentic atmosphere of Chinatown will find it at **Ten Ren Tea Company of San Francisco**. At **Golden Gate Fortune Cookies** *(see p99)*, descendants of Chinese immigrants allow customers to taste samples before buying the San Francisco fortune cookies which were a Chinatown invention. Sixty-year-old **Flax Art and Design** features a huge selection of handmade papers, customized stationery and artist's tools.

Precious gems, glittering gold and watches by some of the world's finest jewelers can be found at **Tiffany & Co** and **Bulgari**. **Jeanine Payer** creates jewelry that transcends the generations, fusing Old World craftsmanship with contemporary design.

SHOPS FOR A GOOD CAUSE

San Franciscans take great pleasure in shopping for a good cause: it assuages the conscience, and provides a temporary fix for the acquisitive urge. Here are a few establishments that cater to those shoppers who care enough to make a contribution. The **Planetweavers Treasure Store** is the official UNICEF shop, where crafts and clothes, which have been made in developing countries are sold, along with a choice of educational toys from around the world. UNICEF receives 25 percent of the net profits. The **Golden Gate National Park Store** is a not-for-profit shop offering park memorabilia, postcards, maps, and books. All the profits made at **Under One Roof** benefit various groups working to help combat AIDS.

SOUVENIRS

All sorts of souvenirs, such as T-shirts, keyrings, mugs, and Christmas ornaments, are decorated with motifs symbolizing San Francisco at **Only in San Francisco** and the **Cable Car Store**. Souvenir and novelty caps of every color, shape and size are available at **Krazy Kaps**, while shop entrances in Grant Avenue and Fisherman's Wharf are lined with baskets filled with inexpensive gifts.

ANTIQUES

Set in San Francisco's most sophisticated shopping area is the **Sacramento Street Antique Dealer's Association**, a collection of stores offering an array of goods from furniture to small household items. This shoppers' paradise is great for browsing.

Fans of Art Deco should seek out **Decorum** on Market Street for its impressive selection of elegant houseware and ornaments. A large selection of antique Japanese "Tansu" cabinetwork can be found at **Genji**, along with other Edo-period pieces made from unique woods such as elm.

TOYS, GAMES, AND GADGETS

The **Academy Store** and the **Exploratorium Store** sell books, kits and games that make learning fun. At **Puppets on the Pier** new owners get puppetry lessons in the shop. **Gamescape** sells any type of game that doesn't require electricity, such as traditional gameboards, collectible cards and role-playing books.

Don't let **Jeffrey's Toys**' tiny storefront fool you. The deeper into the shop you go, the more aisles open up to reveal a massive selection of puzzles, dolls, comic books, and just about any toy you can imagine.

The **Chinatown Kite Shop** takes shopping to new heights, displaying an extraordinary assortment of flying objects. These range from traditional to World Champion stunt kites, all making attractive souvenirs. Some go to **Cosmic Wizard** to shop for mystical, magical treasures, while others love to peruse the many educational toys and games. Either way, this is a great place to buy alternative toys to the ones found in traditional toy stores, including anything related to outer space, cosmic energy, magic, and mystery. For more shops of interest to children, see *p275*.

MUSEUM SHOPS

Museum shopping is another option for visitors to San Francisco, and shops offer delightful and exquisite gifts to suit all budgets, ranging from science kits to reproduction jewelry and sculpture. In San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, visit the **Academy Store** in the California Academy of Sciences *(see pp150–51)*, one of the leading science and natural history museums in America. Here aspiring naturalists can buy dinosaur models, realistic rubber animals, and gifts that are environmentally friendly. Merchandise based on the Academy's Far Side Gallery, which displays the work of cartoonist Gary Larsen, is also for sale. Nearby, there is also a fine assortment of items at the **de Young Museum** shop. At Lincoln Park the **Legion of Honor Museum Store** *(see pp156–7)* offers many beautiful selections based on current exhibitions.

The **Asian Art Museum** shop in the Civic Center is well stocked with books and objects that reflect the museum's area of interest.

There is a great deal to intrigue young scientists at the unique **Exploratorium Store** *(see pp60–61)*. Here they will find all the equipment they need for scientific experiments, games based on topics ranging from astronomy to zoology, and how-to-do-it books and toys. In the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art *(see pp118–21)* the expanded **San Francisco MOMA MuseumStore** sells a wide range of beautifully printed art books, posters, greetings cards and colorful T-shirts.

Gump's *(see p116)* is so splendid it could almost be mistaken for a museum. Many of the items are American or European antiques, limited editions or one of a kind. Well-heeled residents and visitors come here for furniture, fine art, china, crystal, jewelry and gifts.

DIRECTORY

SPECIALTY SHOPS

Biordi Art Imports
412 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *392-8096.*

Bulgari
237 Post St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *399-9141.*

Comix Experience
305 Divisadero St.
Map 10 D1.
Tel *863-9258.*

Flax Art and Design
1699 Market St.
Map 10 F1.
Tel *552-2355.*

Golden Gate Fortune Cookies
56 Ross Alley.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *781-3956.*

Jeanine Payer
672 Market St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *788-2417.*

Malm Luggage
50 Post St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *392-0417.*

Ten Ren Tea Company of San Francisco
949 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *362-0656.*

Tiffany & Co
350 Post St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *781-7000.*

SHOPS FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Golden Gate National Park Store
Embarcadero Center.
Map 6 D3.
Tel *984-0640.*

Planetweavers Treasure Store
1573 Haight St.
Map 9 C1.
Tel *864-4415.*

Under One Roof
518a Castro St.
Map 10 D1.
Tel *503-2300.*

SOUVENIRS

Cable Car Store
PIER 39.
Map 5 B1.
Tel *989-2040.*

Krazy Kaps
PIER 39.
Map 5 B1.
Tel *296-8930.*

Only in San Francisco
PIER 39.
Map 5 B1.
Tel *397-0122.*

ANTIQUES

Decorum
1400 Vallejo St.
Map 5 B3.
Tel *474-6886.*

Genji Antiques Inc.
2090 Cesar Chavez St.
Map 11 B5.
Tel *931-1616.*

Sacramento Street Antique Dealers Association
3599 Sacramento St.
Map 3 B4.
Tel *346-2333.*

TOYS, GAMES, AND GADGETS

Academy Store
See Museum Stores.

Chinatown Kite Shop
717 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *989-5182.*

Cosmic Wizard
4028b 24th St.
Map 10 D4.
Tel *550-7077.*

Exploratorium Store
See Museum Stores.

Gamescape
333 Divisadero St.
Map 10 D1.
Tel *621-4263.*

Jeffrey's Toys
685 Market St. **Map** 5 C5.
Tel *243-8697.*

Puppets on the Pier
PIER 39.
Map 5 B1.
Tel *781-4435.*

MUSEUM STORES

Academy Store
California Academy of Sciences, 55 Concourse Dr. **Map** 8 F2.
Tel *750-7330.*

Asian Art Museum
200 Larkin St.
Map 4 F5.
Tel *581-3500.*
www.asianart.org

de Young Museum
50 Tea Garden Dr, Golden Gate Park.
Map 8 F2.
Tel *750-3642.*

Exploratorium Store
Marina Blvd and Lyon St.
Map 3 C2.
Tel *561-0390.*

Gump's
135 Post St. **Map** 5 C4.
Tel *982-1616.*

Legion of Honor Museum Store
Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park. **Map** 1 B5.
Tel *750-3600.*

San Francisco MOMA MuseumStore
Museum of Modern Art.
Map 6 D5.
Tel *357-4035.*

Clothes and Accessories

San Francisco has a reputation for sophistication, which, judging from its clothing shops, is richly deserved. No matter what the occasion requires, from a designer outfit for a formal event to the comfort of a pair of jeans, you will find it in San Francisco.

August Fashion Week runway shows boost reputations of emerging designers from the San Francisco Bay Area, the West Coast, and New York. Unlike the department stores *(see p245)* that offer a wide selection, most of the shops listed below are small or medium-sized, and often focus on just one or two lines. Take time to see these true gems of the retail world.

SAN FRANCISCO AND OTHER US DESIGNERS

Lines by American designers are sold in boutiques within a department store or in exclusive shops under the designer's name. Retailers such as **Wilkes Bashford** feature up-and-coming designers with a bent for conservative clothing that would be a perfect option for current denizens of the Financial District.

San Francisco designer shops to discover include **Diana Slavin** for classic Italian styles, **Betsey Johnson** for outrageous women's fashions and accessories, and **Joanie Char** for chic sportswear separates. **Emporio Armani Boutique** has an impressive selection of clothing and accessories, while **Jessica McClintock Boutique** is famous for her wedding gowns. Fashionable knits for women can be purchased at **Weston Wear** at rock-bottom prices.

Designer **Sunhee Moon** names each of her 1950s-influenced clothing items after friends. **MAC** or Modern Appealing Clothing, sources one-third of its menswear as well as womenswear from San Francisco designers.

DISCOUNT DESIGNER CLOTHES AND OUTLETS

For designer clothes at concessional rates, head to the SoMa (South of Market) area. Yerba Buena Square contains several kinds of outlets, including **Burlington Coat Factory**, which stocks more than 12,000 coats. Here you can find discounted lines from many local designers. **Georgiou Outlet** showcases classic styles made from natural fibers. **Jeremy's** in SoMa's swish South Park area, discounts formal clothing and designerwear for both men and women.

BAY AREA MALL OUTLETS

Plan a drive to the Bay Area mall outlets, for a good bargain or take home major designer brands at discounted prices. Though about an hour away from San Francisco, given the array of clothes on offer, the visit would certainly be a shoppers' delight.

Find fashion outlets for Liz Claiborne, Off 5th Saks Fifth Avenue, Brooks Brothers, as well as OshKosh and Gap for children's garments, and Bass and Nine West for shoes, at the large **Petaluma Village Premium Outlets**, 74 km (46 miles) north of the city.

Eighty km (50 miles) southeast of San Francisco in Milpitas, **Great Mall** outlets stock some of the best brands. The more popular names include Tommy Hilfiger, Eddie Bauer, Polo Jeans Factory Store, St. John Knits, and Chico's casual women's styles.

CASTRO DISTRICT

Clothing and accessories accent the dominant gay, lesbian, and transgendered lifestyles in this

SIZE CHART

For Australian sizes follow the British conversion.

Children's clothing									
American	2–3	4–5	6–6x	7–8	10	12	14	16 (size)	
British	2–3	4–5	6–7	8–9	10–11	12	14	14+ (years)	
Continental	2–3	4–5	6–7	8–9	10–11	12	14	14+ (years)	

Children's shoes									
American	8½	9½	10½	11½	12½	13	1½	2½	2½
British	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2
Continental	24	25½	27	28	29	30	32	33	34

Women's dresses coats and skirts								
American	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
British	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
Continental	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52

Women's blouses and sweaters							
American	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
British	30	32	34	36	38	40	42
Continental	40	42	44	46	48	50	52

Women's shoes							
American	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
British	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Continental	36	37	38	39	40	41	44

Men's suits								
American	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
British	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
Continental	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58

Men's shirts								
American	14	15	15½	16	16½	17	17½	18
British	14	15	15½	16	16½	17	17½	18
Continental	36	38	39	41	42	43	44	45

Men's shoes								
American	7	7½	8	8½	9½	10½	11	11½
British	6	7	7½	8	9	10	11	12
Continental	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46

neighborhood; shopping is amusing as well as intriguing. If a garment's function or how to wear it is unclear, don't hesitate to ask. Store names, like **InJeanious**, can be as clever as they are well stocked.

CHESTNUT STREET

Beautiful clothing carefully tweaked to suit a woman's lifestyle can be found at boutique **Rabat**, on this Marina District shopping street. Their shoes are stylish and comfortable and their handbags, well designed and fashionable.

FILLMORE

Fillmore Street's Victorian buildings, and the creation of the Jazz Preservation District, lend hip history and ambience to this strolling strip. **Mrs. Dewson's Hats** gained fame as former mayor, Willie Brown's hatmaker.

HAIGHT-ASHBURY

Wandering along Haight Street, it is easy to spot tie-dye T-shirts and vintage clothing stores. **Piedmont Boutique**'s landmark giantess legs adorned with fishnet stockings mark one store where clothing patterns are still cut by hand.

HAYES VALLEY

Proclaiming their taste for progressive style, the people at **Acrimony** pride themselves on delivering an assortment of contemporary designers. It is all about independence and an evolving style at this über-hip, street-smart shop.

SOUTH OF MARKET

The SoMa area, once full of warehouses and flophouses, now has swanky studios and lofts aplenty. It still possesses a gritty, no-nonsense quality that appeals to the younger set who patronize clubs that seem to blossom from nowhere at night. **Isda & Co** reflects its designer's preference for spare, and simple unisex clothing.

UNION SQUARE

You won't find stiff-collared work shirts or ties at this outpost of **John Varvatos**. A truly American sensibility defines this designer's lifestyle brand, which is a favorite of many LA celebrities. The clothes have attitude, whether it be athletic punk or vintage-inspired sportswear.

UNION STREET

It is a short walk from the nearby apartments and mansions to this cheerful street of small boutiques. **Mimi's on Union** touts wearable art like hand-painted kimonos, scarves and jackets.

DIRECTORY

SAN FRANCISCO AND OTHER US DESIGNERS

Betsey Johnson
2033 Fillmore St.
Map 4 D4.
Tel *567-2726.*

Diana Slavin
3 Claude Lane.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *677-9939.*

Emporio Armani Boutique
1 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *677-9400.*

Jessica McClintock Boutique
180 Geary St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *398-9008.*

Joanie Char
527 Sutter St.
Map 5 B4.
Tel *399-9867.*

MAC
387 Grove St.
Map 4 F5.
Tel *863-3011.*

Sunhee Moon
3167 16th St.
Map 10 E2.
Tel *355-1800.*

Weston Wear
569 Valencia St.
Map 10 F2.
Tel *621-1480.*

Wilkes Bashford
375 Sutter St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *986-4380.*

DISCOUNT DESIGNER CLOTHES AND OUTLETS

Burlington Coat Factory
899 Howard St.
Map 11 B2.
Tel *495-7234.*

Georgiou Outlet
574 Seventh St.
Map 11 B2.
Tel *554-0150.*

Jeremy's
2 South Park St.
Map 11 C1.
Tel *882-4929.*

BAY AREA MALL OUTLETS

Great Mall
447 Great Mall Dr.
Milpitas.
Tel *408-945-4022.*

Petaluma Village Premium Outlets
2220 Petaluma Blvd.
North Petaluma
Tel *707-778-9300.*

CASTRO DISTRICT

InJeanious
432 Castro St.
Map 10 D3.
Tel *864-1863.*

CHESTNUT STREET

Rabat
2331 Chestnut St.
Map 3 C2. ***Tel*** *929-8868.*

FILLMORE

Mrs Dewson's Hats
2050 Fillmore St.
Map 4 D4.
Tel *346-1600.*

HAIGHT-ASHBURY

Piedmont Boutique
1452 Haight St.
Map 9 C1.
Tel *864-8075.*

HAYES VALLEY

Acrimony
333 Hayes St.
Map 4 F5.
Tel *861-1025.*

SOUTH OF MARKET

Isda & Co
19 South Park St.
Map 11 C1.
Tel *344-4891.*

UNION SQUARE

John Varvatos
152 Geary St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *986-0138.*

UNION STREET

Mimi's on Union
2133 Union St.
Map 4 D3.
Tel *923-0454.*

MEN'S CLOTHES

For men's designer brands, sportswear, shoes, and accessories with a European influence, try **Rolo**. **Brooks Brothers** was the first retailer of readymade clothes for men in the United States. The company is now known for its smart suits and button-down shirts.

Rugged and fashionable outdoor clothing is available from **Eddie Bauer**. **The Gap** and **Old Navy** combine casual hipness with affordable prices. Men requiring larger sizes can buy travelwear and sweaters, and be fitted for both formal and business suits, at **Rochester Big and Tall**. **Body**, on Castro Street, is a mecca for form-fitting T-shirts, tops, underwear, shoes, and more.

WOMEN'S CLOTHES

Many of the world's famous names in fashion are in San Francisco, including **Chanel**, **Gucci**, and **Louis Vuitton**. **Prada** is famous for its extra-fine merino wool and cashmere clothes. **Banana Republic** and **Guess** are well known for stylish, wearable clothes.

Handmade sweaters from **Three Bags Full** have one-of-a-kind patterns and glorious colors. **Loehmann's** sells designer clothing from New York and Europe at a discount. **Ann Taylor** has well-made suits, blouses, evening dresses, and sweaters. **Bebe** is for the chic and slim. **Harper Greer** puts sizes 12–26 in the height of sleek-line fashion. **Urban Outfitters** has chic second-hand and new clothes, and **Anthropologie** has stylish vintage-inspired looks that include denim and dresses.

CHILDREN'S CLOTHES

Colorful collections of cotton clothing, including tie-dyed and ethnic styles, as well as a large selection of hats, are on display at **Kids Only**. **Small Frys** is a local favorite for cotton attire. **Gap Kids** and **Baby Gap** are good on selection, size, and color.

SHOES

Top-quality footwear is available at **Kenneth Cole** and **Kate Spade**, which delivers classic yet inspired shoes, bags, and accessories. Best names in comfort are at **Ria's**, including Clarks, Birkenstock, Timberland, Sebago and Rockport. **Nike Town** is a megastore for sneakers, and **DSW Shoe Warehouse** offers an enormous range of discounted shoes.

Shoe Biz II, one of three Shoe Biz stores on Haight Street, is easy to spot with its dinosaur mascot figure outside. The music and comfortable chairs in the store are an easy way to slide in and out of a large sneaker selection. **Shoe Biz I** has fashion-aware, value priced everyday shoes; and, **Super Shoe Biz** caters to more upscale fashionistas.

Foot Worship stocks women's sizes from 5–14, personally assisting a clientele that enjoys a precarious stiletto heel.

LINGERIE

San Francisco's playful side gets indulged, too. **Alla Prima Fine Lingerie** fits the finest European brand name underwear, silky gowns and camisoles. **Victoria's Secret** has San Francisco outposts, including Union Square. America's first topless dancer designs and sells at her store, **Carol Doda's Champagne & Lace Lingerie**.

LEATHER CLOTHING

In San Francisco, leatherwear is an antidote to fog effects as well as a lifestyle declaration. **Fog City Leather** custom-makes alligator jackets and purveys head-to-pants leather clothing. A local institution for more than 80 years, **Golden Bear Sportswear** uses the highest-quality leather for its handmade jackets in a variety of modern and classic styles.

OUTDOOR OUTFITTERS

There is a lot of accessible outdoor space around the city and Northern California, with active adult clothing, gear, and equipment stores to provide for adventuring whims. **REI** bargain prices on the first Saturday-of-the-month and seasonal sales are a good bet for skiing, snowboarding, cycling, paddling and comfortable travelwear.

The **North Face** started in North Beach in 1966 and provides outerwear designed for sub-freezing temperatures. **Patagonia**'s mountain climbing roots developed organic cotton, and moisture and heat resistant clothing for activities ranging from climbing, surfing, running and mountain biking, to yoga.

SPORTSWEAR

Devoted baseball fans shop for logo caps to pants at **SF Giants Dugout** stores. A wide display of authorized NFL, and NBA team sweatshirts and sweatpants are available at the **NFL Shop** at PIER 39. San Francisco 49er jerseys and varsity jackets are popular buys at **Champs**.

Independent **Lombardi Sports** stocks lacrosse to lifestyle sportswear.

The **Adidas Store** has a great variety of classic shoes, sporty apparel, and genuine athletic wear for men and women. Specialty sportswear and gear shops include **Golfsmith**, for both golf and tennis, and **KinderSport**, which offers children's ski outwear all the year round.

For anyone shopping for name-embossed San Francisco T-shirts, hoodies, or sleepwear, **I Heart SF** at Fisherman's Wharf has one of the widest selections.

VINTAGE CLOTHING

Buffalo Exchange and **Crossroads Trading** offer secondhand clothing with something of a history. **Wasteland** in the Haight-Ashbury District is known for its vintage clothes. **Guys and Dolls Vintage** outfits flappers to swing dancers in hip styles, while **Clothes Contact** sells vintage clothes by the pound.

DIRECTORY

MEN'S CLOTHES

Body
450 Castro St.
Map 10 D3.
Tel *575-3562.*

Brooks Brothers
150 Post St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *397-4500.*

Eddie Bauer
3521 20th Ave.
Map S. of 8 E5.
Tel *664-9262.*

The Gap
100 Post St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *421-2314.*
Also: 890 Market St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *788-5909.*

Old Navy
801 Market St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *344-0375.*

Rochester Big and Tall
700 Mission St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *982-6455.*

Rolo
2351 Market St.
Map 10 D2.
Tel *431-4545.*

WOMEN'S CLOTHES

Ann Taylor
3 Embarcadero Center.
Map 6 D3.
Tel *989-5355.*

Anthropologie
800 Market St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *434-2210.*

Banana Republic
256 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *788-3087.*

Bebe
San Francisco Centre.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *543-2323.*

Chanel
155 Maiden Lane.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *981-1550.*

Gucci
240 Stockton St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *392-2808.*

Guess
90 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *781-1589.*

Harper Greer
522 Sutter St.
Map 5 B4.
Tel *732-7888.*

Loehmann's
222 Sutter St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *982-3215.*

Louis Vuitton
233 Geary St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *391-6200.*

Prada
140 Geary St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *391-8844.*

Three Bags Full
2181 Union St.
Map 4 D3.
Tel *567-5753.*

Urban Outfitters
80 Powell St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *989-1515.*

CHILDREN'S CLOTHES

Gap Kids/Baby Gap
240 Post St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *834-9028.*

Kids Only
1608 Haight St.
Map 9 B1.
Tel *552-5445.*

Small Frys
4066 24th St.
Map 10 D4.
Tel *648-3954.*

SHOES

DSW Shoe Warehouse
111 Powell St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *445-9511.*

Foot Worship
1214 Sutter St.
Map 5 A5.
Tel *921-3668.*

Kate Spade
227 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *216-0880.*

Kenneth Cole
865 Market St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *227-4536.*

Nike Town
278 Post St. **Map** 5 C4.
Tel *392-6453.*

Ria's
301 Grant Ave. **Map** 5 C4.
Tel *834-1420.*

Shoe Biz I
1446 Haight St. **Map** 9 C1.
Tel *864-0990.*

Shoe Biz II
1553 Haight St. **Map** 9 C1.
Tel *861-3933.*

Super Shoe Biz
1420 Haight St.
Map 9 C1.
Tel *861-0313.*

LINGERIE

Alla Prima Fine Lingerie
1420 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C2.
Tel *397-4077.*

Carol Doda's Champagne & Lace Lingerie
1850 Union St.
Map 4 E2.
Tel *776-6900.*

Victoria's Secret
335 Powell St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *433-9671.*

LEATHER CLOTHING

Fog City Leather
2060 Union St.
Map 4 D2.
Tel *567-1996.*

Golden Bear Sportswear
200 Potrero Ave.
Map 11 A3.
Tel *863-6171.*

OUTDOOR OUTFITTERS

North Face
180 Post St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *433-3223.*

Patagonia
770 North Point St.
Map 5 A2.
Tel *771-2050.*

REI
840 Brannan St.
Map 11 B2. ***Tel*** *934-1938.*

SPORTSWEAR

Adidas Store
865 Market St, Suite 211.
Map 5 C5. ***Tel*** *975-0934.*

Champs
San Francisco Centre.
Map 5 C5. ***Tel*** *975-0883.*

Golfsmith
735 Market St.
Map 5 C5. ***Tel*** *974-6979.*

I Heart SF
2545 Powell St.
Map 5 B1. ***Tel*** *392-2001.*

KinderSport
3655 Sacramento St.
Map 3 B4. ***Tel*** *563-7778.*

Lombardi Sports
1600 Jackson St.
Map 4 F3. ***Tel*** *771-0600.*

NFL Shop
PIER 39.
Map 5 B1. ***Tel*** *397-2027.*

SF Giants Dugout
SBC Park. **Map** 11 C1.
Tel *972-2453.*

VINTAGE CLOTHING

Buffalo Exchange
1555 Haight St.
Map 9 C1. ***Tel*** *431-7733.*
1210 Valencia St.
Map 10 F4.
Tel *647-8332.*

Clothes Contact
473 Valencia St.
Map 10 F2.
Tel *621-3212.*

Crossroads Trading
1901 Fillmore. **Map** 4 D4.
Tel *775-8885.*
2123 Market St.
Map 10 E2.
Tel *552-8740.*

Guys and Dolls Vintage
3789 24th St.
Map 10 E4.
Tel *285-7174.*

Wasteland
1660 Haight St.
Map 9 B1.
Tel *863-3150.*

Books, Music, Art and Antiques

Hundreds of shops cater to the many writers, artists and collectors living in and visiting San Francisco. Residents decorate their houses with items from local art and antiques galleries. Visitors who love shopping for fine and unusual objects – from that rare one-of-a-kind piece to distinctive contemporary ethnic arts – are sure to find a treasure in one of San Francisco's shops.

GENERAL INTEREST BOOKSTORES

Limelight Books is the West Coast's longest surviving resource for stageplays, screenplays, and books on writing and directing. The artists of the Beat Generation once gathered to talk about America's emerging 1960s social revolution at the **City Lights Bookstore** *(see p88)*, a famous San Francisco institution. It stays open till late, making it a favorite hangout for students. **Green Apple Books** has new and used books, and is open until 10:30pm, or 11:30pm on Fridays and Saturdays. **Borders Books & Music** has just about everything, while **The Booksmith**, located in Haight Ashbury, is notable for its stock of foreign and political periodicals. **Cover to Cover** is a neighborhood bookshop with an excellent children's section and friendly staff, and **Alexander Books** has good selections of children's and general interest books.

SPECIALTY BOOKSTORES

If science fiction, mystery, and horror are what excites you, head over to **Borderland Books** for the most extensive selection of titles in these genres. If your interests include the environment, politics, and sustainability, **The Green Arcade** is the place to visit. **Get Lost Travel Books, Maps & Gear** has a very wide range of travel literature and maps.

RECORDS, TAPES AND COMPACT DISCS

Streetlight Records offers a varied selection of new and used music as well as bargain DVDs, CDs, and video games. Obscure sounds are available at **Recycled Records** on Haight Street, where new and used recordings are bought, sold and traded as eagerly as stocks in the Financial District. Established in 1970, **Aquarius Records** is the oldest independent record store in San Francisco, carrying a range of genres, from psychedelic and indie rock to reggae and bluegrass. **Amoeba Music** has the largest selection of CDs and tapes in the country. It has 500,000 titles, both new and secondhand, including jazz, international blues and rock music. A music collector's paradise, this is *the* place to go if you are looking for hard-to-find music at low prices.

SHEET MUSIC

For all your musical needs, pay a visit to **Sunset Music Company**, a one-stop shop selling sheet music, music books, instruments, and music accessories. They also offer services such as lessons, rehearsal room rental, and instrument hire. All types of music and books of collections can be found at the **Music Center of San Francisco**.

ART GALLERIES

New enthusiasts as well as serious art lovers will find something to their liking in the hundreds of galleries. The **John Berggruen Gallery** *(see p38)* has the biggest collection in San Francisco of works by both emerging and well-established artists. The **Fraenkel Gallery** is known for its collection of 19th- and 20th-century photography. The **Haines Gallery**, in the same building, stocks paintings, drawings, sculpture, and photography. **SF Camerawork** sells limited-edition prints by renowned photographic artists, while **Compositions Gallery** is the place for glass art and works in wood. **Sculpturesite Gallery** is Northern California's only gallery dedicated to modern and contemporary fine art sculpture. New works by American artists are hung at **Gallery Paule Anglim**, while realism is the theme at the **John Pence Gallery**.

For affordable art by local Bay Area artists, visit **Hang** gallery. At **Vista Point Studios Gallery** there are amazing photos of the Bay Area and beyond.

ETHNIC AND AMERICAN FOLK ART

Good collections of ethnic art are at several galleries. **Folk Art International, Xanadu, & Boretti** in the renovated Frank Lloyd Building has masks, textiles, sculptures, and jewelry. Find beautiful handmade African masks, jewelry and textiles at **African Outlet**. Pottery and masks from Japan are hard to resist at **Ma-Shi'-Ko Folk Craft**. Traditional and contemporary works by local artists can be found at **Galaria de la Raza**.

INTERNATIONAL ANTIQUES

San Francisco's Barbary Coast area *(see pp26–7)* has been transformed into a shopping district for antiques, and is now called **Jackson Square** *(see p110)*. Another collection of antique shops can be found at **Baker Hamilton Square**.

Ed Hardy San Francisco offers both English and French antiques and **Lang Antiques** has all kinds of items from the Victorian, Art Nouveau, Art Deco, and Edwardian periods. **Dragon House** sells both Oriental antiques and pieces of fine art, while all sorts of antique books, prints and maps can be seen at **Prints Old & Rare** – although you will need to make an appointment.

DIRECTORY

GENERAL INTEREST BOOKSHOPS

Alexander Books
50 Second St.
Map 6 D4.
Tel *495-2992.*

The Booksmith
1644 Haight St.
Map 9 B1.
Tel *863-8688.*

Borders Books & Music
400 Post St.
Map 5 B4.
Tel *399-1633.*

City Lights Bookstore
261 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *362-8193.*

Cover to Cover
1307 Castro St.
Map 10 D4.
Tel *282-8080.*

Green Apple Books
506 Clement St.
Map 3 A5.
Tel *387-2272.*

Limelight Books
1803 Market St.
Map 10 E1.
Tel *864-2265.*

SPECIALTY BOOKSHOPS

Borderland Books
866 Valencia St.
Map 10 F3.
Tel *824-8203.*

Get Lost Travel Books, Maps & Gear
1825 Market St.
Map 10 E1.
Tel *437-0529.*

The Green Arcade
1680 Market St.
Map 10 F1.
Tel *431-6800.*

RECORDS, TAPES AND COMPACT DISCS

Amoeba Music
1855 Haight St.
Map 9 B1.
Tel *831-1200.*

Aquarius Records
1055 Valencia St.
Map 10 F3.
Tel *647-2272.*

Recycled Records
1377 Haight St.
Map 9 C1.
Tel *626-4075.*

Streetlight Records
2350 Market St.
Map 10 D2.
Tel *282-8000.*

SHEET MUSIC

Music Center of San Francisco
207 Powell St.
Map 5 B1.
Tel *781-6023.*

Sunset Music Company
2311 Irving St.
Map 8 E3.
Tel *731-1725.*

ART GALLERIES

Compositions Gallery
317 Sutter St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *885-0402.*

Fraenkel Gallery
49 Geary St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *981-2661.*

Gallery Paule Anglim
14 Geary St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *433-2710.*

Haines Gallery
5th Floor,
49 Geary St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *397-8114.*

Hang
567 Sutter St,
2nd Floor.
Map 3 C4.
Tel *434-4264.*

John Berggruen Gallery
228 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *781-4629.*

John Pence Gallery
750 Post St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *441-1138.*

Sculpturesite Gallery
201 Third St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *495-6400.*

SF Camerawork
657 Mission St,
2nd Floor.
Map 6 D5.
Tel *512-2020.*

Vista Point Studios Gallery
405 Florida St.
Map 11 A3.
Tel *215-9073.*

ETHNIC AND AMERICAN FOLK ART

African Outlet
524 Octavia St.
Map 4 E5.
Tel *864-3576.*

Folk Art International, Xanadu, & Boretti
Frank Lloyd Wright Bldg,
140 Maiden Lane.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *392-9999.*

Galaria de la Raza
Studio 24,
2857 24th St.
Map 10 F4.
Tel *826-8009.*

Ma-Shi'-Ko Folk Craft
1581 Webster St,
Japan Center.
Map 4 E4.
Tel *346-0748.*

INTERNATIONAL ANTIQUES

Dragon House
455 Grant Ave.
Map 6 C4.
Tel *421-3696.*

Ed Hardy San Francisco
188 Henry Adams St.
Map 10 D2.
Tel *626-6300.*

Jackson Square Art & Antique Dealers Association
463 Jackson St
(at Jackson Square.)
Map 5 C3.
Tel *397-6999.*

Lang Antiques
323 Sutter St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *982-2213.*

Prints Old & Rare
580 Mount Crespi Drive,
Pacifica, California.
Tel *(650) 355-6325.*

Food and Household Goods

San Francisco's "foodies"are a sophisticated breed, and they thrive on the city's reputation for fine food. When not dining out, they cook at home from well-stocked pantries in their ultra-equipped kitchens. Cravings for good wine, gourmet groceries and for the items that make cooking into an art form can easily be satisfied here. For the home, there are dozens of stores carrying the latest household goods, computers, and photographic and electronic equipment.

GOURMET GROCERIES

From abalone to zucchini (courgettes), and from fresh Californian produce to imported specialty foods, gourmet grocers such as **Whole Foods** carry a variety of items. **Williams-Sonoma** has jams, mustards and much more for gifts or as a special treat. **David's** is known for its lox (smoked salmon), bagels and New York cheesecake. For a quick takeout lunch or a choice of beautifully packaged foods, try one of the department store food sections such as **Macy's Cellar**. Most large chain grocery stores have good international sections.

In addition to fresh takeout items, Italian delicatessens stock olive oil, polenta and pasta from Italy. **Molinari Delicatessen** is famous for its ravioli and tortellini, ready to throw in the saucepan. **Lucca Ravioli** has a friendly staff, who makes their pasta on the premises. **Pasta Gina**, in lovely Noe Valley, sells pasta, prepared pesto and other sauces with ample meatballs.

It is worth going to the two Chinese quarters – Chinatown *(see pp94–9)* in the city center and Clement Street *(see p63)* – for Asian food products and produce. At **Casa Lucas Market** you will find Spanish and Latin American specialties.

SPECIALTY FOOD AND WINE SHOPS

A baguette of fresh sourdough bread from **Boudin Bakery** is an addiction with locals and a tradition with visitors. **Boulangerie** brings Paris to San Francisco, with some of the best bread in the city. More Italian specialties come from **Il Fornaio Bakery**, a popular offshoot from their restaurant *(see p230)*. Head to **Patisserie Delanghe** for heavenly old world-style pastries, while the meat and fruit pies from **Bepples Pies** are also delicious.

San Franciscans are coffee connoisseurs, and there are many specialty shops. **Caffè Trieste** sells custom-roasted and blended coffees and a variety of brewing equipment. **Caffè Roma Coffee Roasting Company** and the **Graffeo Coffee Roasting Company** both sell excellent beans. The locals are also loyal to **Peet's Coffee & Tea** and **Tully's Coffee** company.

Chocoholics usually frequent **See's Candies**, **Confetti Le Chocolatier**, and San Francisco's own **Ghirardelli**. Truffles beyond compare are created at **Saratoga Chocolates**. Ice cream is good from **Ben & Jerry's** and **Hot Cookie Double Rainbow**. Head for **Bombay Bazaar** for imported Indian spices.

The staff at the **California Wine Merchant** makes good recommendations and are very knowledgeable about their affordable wines.

FARMERS' MARKETS AND FLEA MARKETS

Locally grown produce arrives by the truckload at farmers' markets in the center of the city. Stalls are erected for the day, and farmers sell directly to the public. The **Heart of the City** is open from 7am to 5:30pm on Wednesdays and until 5pm on Sundays. The **Ferry Plaza** on Saturdays is from 9am to 2pm. Chinatown's produce stores have the feel of an exotic farmers' market and are open every day. All kinds of things are sold at the flea markets. The one in **Berkeley** is within easy reach. Be prepared to barter and to pay in cash. There may also be a nominal entrance fee.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Gourmet cooks dream of **Williams-Sonoma**'s many kitchen gadgets and quality cookware. From practical pots and pans to beautiful serving plates, **Crate & Barrel** sells moderately priced items for your kitchen and patio. Chinese cooking gear is the specialty of the house at **The Wok Shop**. For bed, bath and table linens and general household goods visit **Bed, Bath & Beyond**. **Sue Fisher King** sells elegant, fashionable items for the home and bath. For a kaleidoscopic range of fabrics and accessories, from silks, woolens and cottons, to buttons, ribbons and laces, and even upholstery materials, look no farther than **Britex Fabrics**.

COMPUTERS, ELECTRONICS, AND PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT

One of the best places to go for computers is **Central Computers**. For software and anything else electronic, try **Best Buy**. It's "one-stop shopping for the nerd population."

For new and second-hand camera gear, repairs and film, go to **Adolph Gasser**. Some of the discount camera shops along Market Street have shady reputations, so it is advisable to check with the Visitor Information Center *(see p117)* for the best and most reputable places to shop. If you just need film or other photographic supplies, **Photographer's Supply** offers very low prices along with good advice.

DIRECTORY

GOURMET GROCERIES

Casa Lucas Market
2934 24th St.
Map 9 C3.
Tel *826-4334.*

David's
474 Geary St.
Map 5 A5.
Tel *276-5950.*

Lucca Ravioli
1100 Valencia St.
Map 10 F3.
Tel *647-5581.*

Macy's Cellar
Stockton St and O'Farrell St.
Map 5 C1.
Tel *296-4436.*

Molinari Delicatessen
373 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *421-2337.*

Pasta Gina
741 Diamond St.
Map 10 D4.
Tel *282-0738.*

Whole Foods
1765 California St.
Map 4 F4.
Tel *674-0500.*

Williams-Sonoma
340 Post St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *362-9450.*
www.williams-sonoma.com
One of several branches.

SPECIALTY FOOD AND WINE SHOPS

Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream
1480 Haight St. **Map** 9 C1. ***Tel*** *626-4143.*
www.ben&jerrys.com

Bepples Pies
1934 Union St.
Map 4 E3.
Tel *931-6225.*

Bombay Bazaar
548 Valencia St.
Map 10 F2.
Tel *621-1717.*

Boudins Bakery
4 Embarcadero Center.
Map 6 D3.
Tel *362-3330.*
One of many branches.

Boulangerie
2325 Pine St.
Map 4 D4.
Tel *440-0356.*

Caffè Roma Coffee Roasting Company
526 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 B2.
Tel *296-7942.*

Caffè Trieste
601 Vallejo St.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *982-2605.*

California Wine Merchant
2113 Chestnut St.
Map 4 D2.
Tel *567-0646.*

Confetti Le Chocolatier
525 Market St.
Map 5 D3.
Tel *543-2885.*

Ghirardelli's
Ghirardelli Square.
Map 4 F1.
Tel *474-3938.*

42 Stockton St.
Map 5 C1.
Tel *397-3030.*

Graffeo Coffee Roasting Company
735 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 B2.
Tel *986-2420.*

Hot Cookie Double Rainbow
407 Castro St.
Map 10 D2.
Tel *621-2350.*
One of several branches.

Il Fornaio Bakery
1265 Battery St.
Map 5 C2.
Tel *986-0646.*

Patisserie Delanghe
1890 Fillmore St.
Map 4 D4.
Tel *923-0711.*

Peet's Coffee & Tea
2156 Chestnut St.
Map 4 D2.
Tel *931-8302.*
One of several branches.

Saratoga Chocolates
3489 16th St.
Map 10 E2.
Tel *861-8682.*

See's Candies
3 Embarcadero Center.
Map 6 D3.
Tel *391-1622.*
One of several branches.

Tully's Coffee
50 Post St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *956-8680.*
One of several branches.

FARMERS' MARKETS AND FLEA MARKETS

Berkeley Flea Market
1837 Ashby Ave,
Berkeley, CA 94703.
Tel *(510) 644-0744.*

Ferry Plaza Farmers' Market
Base of Market at the Embarcadero.
Map 6 D3.
Tel *291-3276.* **www**.ferryplazafarmersmarket.com

Heart of the City Farmers' Market
United Nations Plaza.
Map 11 A1.
Tel *558-9455.*

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Bed, Bath & Beyond
555 9th St.
Map 11 A4.
Tel *252-0490.*

Britex Fabrics
146 Geary St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *392-2910.*

Crate & Barrel
55 Stockton St. **Map** 5 C5.
Tel *982-5200.*
www.crateandbarrel.com

Sue Fisher King
3067 Sacramento St.
Map 3 C4.
Tel *922-7276.*

Williams-Sonoma
See Gourmet Groceries.

The Wok Shop
718 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *989-3797.*

COMPUTERS, ELECTRONICS & PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT

Adolph Gasser, Inc
181 Second St.
Map 6 D5.
Tel *495-3852.*

Best Buy
1717 Harrison St.
Map 11 A3.
Tel *626-9682.*

Central Computers
837 Howard St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *495-5888.*

Photographer's Supply
436 Bryant St.
Map 11 C1.
Tel *495-8640.*

ENTERTAINMENT IN SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco has prided itself on being the cultural capital of the West Coast since the city first began to prosper in the 1850s, and here entertainment is generally of high quality. The performing arts complex of the Civic Center is the major location for the best classical music, opera and ballet. The latest addition to the cultural life here is the excellent Center for the Arts Theater at Yerba Buena Gardens. International touring shows can be seen here. Numerous repertory movie theaters *(see pp262–3)*, offer filmgoers a wide range of choices, but theater, except for some independent productions is not the city's strongest suit. Popular music, especially jazz and blues, is where San Francisco excels, and you can hear good bands in intimate locales for the price of a drink, or at the street fairs and music festivals held during the summer months *(see pp48–51)*. Facilities are also available around the city for all kinds of sports, from bicycling to golf or sailing.

Beach Blanket Babylon *(see p263)*

INFORMATION

Complete listings of what's on and where are given in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Examiner* newspapers *(see p281). The Chronicle's* Sunday edition is most useful, with a "Datebook" section (also called the "Pink Pages") that gives details of hundreds of events taking place each week. Other good sources are the free weekly newspapers, like the *San Francisco Bay Guardian* or the *San Francisco Weekly* (available at newsstands, kiosks, cafés and bars). These give both listings and reviews, especially of live music, films and nightclubs.

San Francisco
JAZZ FESTIVAL
Banner for the Jazz Festival *(see p266)*

Visitors planning further in advance will find the *San Francisco Book* very helpful. This is published twice yearly by the San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau, and contains listings of both short and long-running cultural events. The book is available free if you go to the Visitors Information Center at Hallidie Plaza. You can also phone the bureau's events line for recorded information. Numerous free magazines for visitors are available, as well as calendars of events. Among these are *Key This Week San Francisco* and *Where San Francisco.*

BUYING TICKETS

The main source for tickets to concerts, theater and sports events is **Ticketmaster.** This company has a virtual monopoly on ticket sales, running an extensive charge-by-phone operation in Tower Record shops all over northern California. They ask for a "convenience charge" of around $7 per ticket. The only alternative to Ticketmaster is to buy directly from the box offices, though many of these are open only just before the start of evening performances.

Many productions by the San Francisco Symphony and ballet and opera companies are sold out in advance. So if you want to see one of these performances, advance planning is essential. All have subscription programs through which you can buy tickets for the season, useful if you are planning to stay in the city for a lengthy period of time.

SAN FRANCISCO TICKET BOX OFFICE SERVICE
Shop front of San Francisco ticket agency

Outdoor chess, popular in Portsmouth Plaza, Chinatown

There are only a few ticket agencies in San Francisco, mostly specializing in selling hard-to-get seats at marked-up prices. All are listed in the Yellow Pages of the telephone directory. "Scalpers," or ticket hawkers, can be found lurking outside most sold-out events, offering seats at extortionate prices. If you are willing to bargain (and miss the opening), you can sometimes get a good deal.

Playing the blues at the Blues Festival *(see p267)*

DISCOUNT TICKETS

Discount tickets for selected theater, dance and music events are available from **TIX Bay Area**, which offers half-price seats from a booth on the east side of Union Square. Tickets are sold from 11am on the day of the performance, and can be purchased with cash or travelers' checks. There are also some half-price tickets available on weekends for events taking place on the following Sunday and Monday.

TIX Bay Area is also a full-service ticket outlet, and will accept credit cards for advance sales. It is open Tuesday to Thursday 11am to 6pm, Friday and Saturday 11am to 7pm, and Sunday 11am to 3pm.

FREE EVENTS

In addition to San Francisco's many ticket-only events, a number of free concerts and performances are staged all over the city. Most of these take place during the day. The San Francisco Symphony gives a late summer series of Sunday concerts at Stern Grove, south of the Sunset District, and is occasionally used for ballets.

Cobbs Comedy Club, Fisherman's Wharf, hosts the San Francisco International Comedy Competition for four weeks in August/September. Over 300 entertainers join in.

Performers from the San Francisco Opera sing outdoors in the Financial District, as part of the "Brown Bag Operas" series. In the summer the park is host to the Shakespeare Festival, Comedy Celebration Day and the San Francisco Mime Troupe. A series of concerts called "Music in the Park" is held on summer Fridays at noon, behind the Transamerica Pyramid *(see p111)*, and at Old St. Mary's Church *(see p98)* there are sometimes lunchtime recitals at 12:30pm during the week.

FACILITIES FOR THE DISABLED

California is a national leader in providing the handicapped with access to facilities. Most theaters and concert halls in San Francisco are therefore fully accessible, and have special open-free areas set aside for wheelchair-bound patrons. A few of the smaller houses may require you to use special entrances, or elevators to reach the upper tiers, but in general access is free of obstacles. Many movie theaters also offer amplifying headphones for the hearing impaired. Contact the theaters to be sure of their facilities, and see *Practical Information* on page 280.

Budweiser
BOBBY McFERRIN
PACIFIC BELL PARK
schwab

AT&T Park, home of the San Francisco Giants *(see p272)*

Presidio
MALICE

The Presidio Cinema *(see p262)*

DIRECTORY

USEFUL NUMBERS

San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau
Suite 900, 201 3rd St.
San Francisco, CA 94103-9097.
Tel *974-6900*. **www**.sf.visitor.org
Visitor Info Center
Powell St at Market St, lower level
Hallidie Plaza.
Tel *391-2000*.

Events Line (24-hour)
☎ 391-2001 *(English)*
☎ 391-2003 *(French)*
☎ 391-2004 *(German)*
☎ 391-2122 *(Spanish)*

TICKET AGENCIES

Ticketmaster
Charge-by-phone. ***Tel*** *421-8497*.
www.tickets.com

TIX Bay Area
East Side of Union Sq, Powell St
between Geary and Post sts.
Tel *433-7827*.
www.theatrebayarea.org

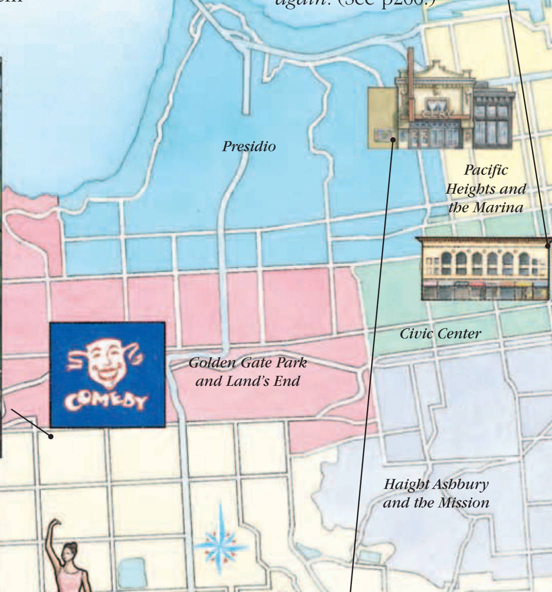
San Francisco's Best: Entertainment

With a huge variety of entertainment options, San Francisco is one of the most enjoyable cities in the world. Big names in every branch of the arts perform here, and many also make the city their home, attracted by the creative local community. In addition to the West Coast's best opera, ballet, and symphony orchestra, the city supports a wide range of jazz and rock music plus diverse theater and dance companies. For the sports-minded, there are numerous events to watch or take part in. And finally, the spectacular parks and recreation areas allow visitors to design their own outdoor activities, many of them costing nothing.

JEFFERSON AIRPLANE

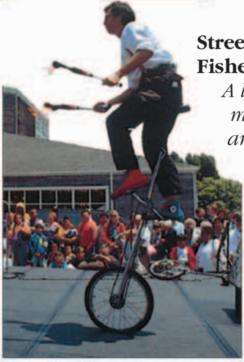
Fillmore Auditorium
Famous for acts such as Jefferson Airplane in the 1960s, the refurbished Auditorium is set so become a premier music spot again. (See p266.)

San Francisco Comedy Celebration Day
This annual festival in Golden Gate Park offers spectators a chance to see new talent that could, like Whoopi Goldberg, make it big. (See p259.)


Presidio
Pacific Heights and the Marina
Civic Center
Golden Gate Park and Land's End
Haight Ashbury and the Mission
COMEDY
0 kilometers 2
0 miles 1

Outdoor Ballet at Stern Grove
The natural outdoor amphitheater is a tranquil setting for ballet. (See p259.)

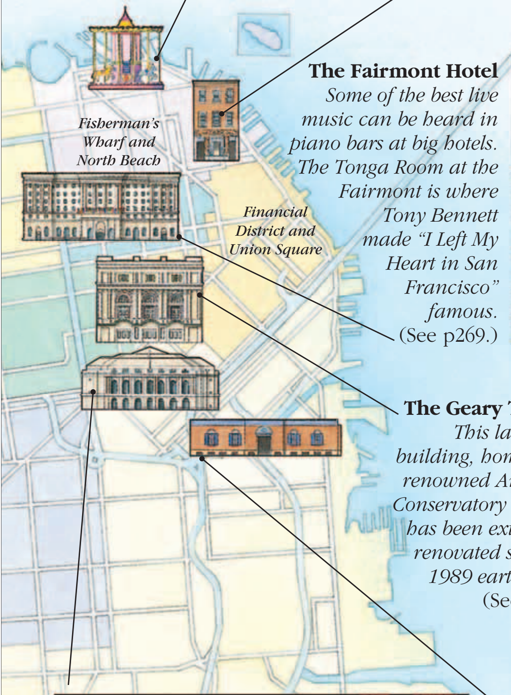
Clay Theatre
For foreign films try the Clay Theatre on Fillmore Street, which was built in 1910 and is one of the city's oldest theaters. (See p262.)



Street Entertainers on Fisherman's Wharf
A lively mix of street musicians, jugglers and various other impromptu performers entertain the crowds at Fisherman's Wharf. (See p259.)

2232
OFFICES
Miller Genuine Draft
SALOON
ESTABLISHED 1861

The Saloon
Local blues bands perform nightly at this popular North Beach bar. Dating from 1861, the Saloon is an authentic Gold Rush survivor. (See p266.)


Fisherman's Wharf and North Beach
Financial District and Union Square

The Fairmont Hotel
Some of the best live music can be heard in piano bars at big hotels. The Tonga Room at the Fairmont is where Tony Bennett made "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" famous. (See p269.)

The Geary Theater
This landmark building, home of the renowned American Conservatory Theater, has been extensively renovated since the 1989 earthquake. (See p263.)

War Memorial Opera House
Book tickets in advance for the acclaimed San Francisco Opera Association. (See p264.)

Slim's
One of the classiest of the SoMa nightclubs, Slim's offers a mixture of jazz, rock and blues. (See p266.)

Film and Theater

San Francisco has an avid film-going community, and newly released blockbusters often get shown at neighborhood theaters. In keeping with its reputation as a center of the arts, San Francisco really excels at film festivals. In addition to the well-known International and Mill Valley festivals, there are annual celebrations of the best of Native American, Asian-American, Women's and Gay and Lesbian film and video productions.

Theater offerings are much less varied and more expensive than films, and at any one time there may be only a handful of productions from which to choose. Mainstream theaters, which host a range of touring Broadway productions as well as those by local companies, are concentrated in the Theater District *(see p116)*, along Geary Street just west of Union Square. The Fort Mason Center *(see pp74–5)* is another theatrical nexus, with a more avant-garde reputation.

FIRST-RUN FILMS

For a fun multimedia experience, head to the **Sony Metreon**, a 15-screen complex plus IMAX. There are shops, restaurants, special programs, and other attractions. The **AMC Kabuki** Japan Center *(see p128)* and the modern **Embarcadero** and **Presidio Theater** are other excellent movie houses for first-run films; the Embarcadero also excels at foreign and indie films. Prices for all first-run venues are roughly the same.

Other popular venues include the **AMC1000 Van Ness** and **AMC Loews Metreon 16**. The **Century San Francisco Centre** is located in the Westfield Shopping Centre and has luxurious seats and a gourmet snack bar. Programs usually start around noon, with shows every two hours until around 10pm. On occasion, there are midnight shows on weekends. Half-price tickets may be available for at least the first showing, although this varies greatly from theater to theater. The Kabuki offers its best discounts every day from 4pm to 6pm.

FILM RATINGS

Films in the US are graded as follows:

G General audiences, all ages admitted.

PG Parental guidance suggested. Some material unsuitable for children.

PG-13 Parents strongly cautioned. Some material inappropriate for children under age 13.

R Restricted. Children under 17 need to be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian.

NC-17 No children under 17 admitted.

FOREIGN FILMS AND ART HOUSES

Main venues for first-run foreign films are the **Clay** in Pacific Heights, the Civic Center's **Lumiere** and **Opera Plaza**, a four screen complex. All of these are owned and operated by the Landmark chain, which sells a discount card that gives five admissions for a saving of 30 percent.

The **Castro** *(see p136)*, San Francisco's finest older theater, shows Hollywood classics and other revivals, as well as unusual newer films, with programs changing daily. The chic **Roxie**, an independent rep house in the Mission District, and Haight Ashbury's tiny **Red Vic**, also screen forgotten classics and unusual new releases.

More obscure but intriguing fare is at **Cinematheque**, which has programs on Sunday nights at the San Francisco Art Institute, and on Thursday nights at the **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts**.

FILM FESTIVALS

Held at the Kabuki complex for two weeks in May, the **San Francisco International Film Festival** usually has some commercial hits. Generally, however, it shows independent and foreign releases that might not otherwise get shown. The tickets sell extremely fast, and you will need to book three or four days in advance. The **Mill Valley Film Festival**, held early in October, is also a mainstay of the circuit, as is the increasingly high-profile **Lesbian & Gay Film Festival** held each June at the **Castro**, **Roxie** and the **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts**.

MAINSTREAM THEATERS

Many residents of San Francisco show apparent disdain for the international

ON LOCATION

Many places in and around San Francisco have played starring roles in films:

Alcatraz is the famous high security prison in *Bird Man of Alcatraz* and *Escape from Alcatraz*.

Alta Plaza Park is where Barbra Streisand drove a car down the steps in *What's Up Doc?*

Bodega Bay, on the coast just north of San Francisco, is the small town in Hitchcock's *The Birds*.

Chinatown as tourists don't usually see it is the setting for *Chan is Missing, The Dead Pool, Dim Sum* and *Hammett*.

Fillmore Auditorium's final week, with footage of the Grateful Dead, is the theme of *Fillmore*.

Mission District featured in the violent cop thriller *The Laughing Policeman*.

Presidio is where a brutal murder takes place in the crime thriller *The Presidio*.

Union Square is the scene for the key sequence of *The Conversation*.

commercial successes, which explains why theater has a lower profile here than in other large cities. There are likely to be at least a couple of major shows, however, playing at the main Theater District spots; three of the largest theaters are the **Golden Gate Theater**, the **Curran Theater**, and the **Orpheum Theater**, all part of the Best of Broadway performance series. Others include the **New Conservatory Theatre Center** and the **Marines Memorial Theater**. The **Stage Door Theater** has a reputation for serious productions, while musicals, and comedy are staged at **The Marsh**.

The most respected major company in the city is the **American Conservatory Theater (ACT)**, whose long-time home, the landmark Geary Theater, is located near Union Square. A variety of plays are performed during its October to May season.

ALTERNATIVE THEATER

With dozens of small theaters spread around the city, and many more in the Bay Area, San Francisco's off-Broadway scene is alive and well, if hard to find. **Fort Mason** is the most obvious center, home to the nationally known **Magic Theater** and diverse other groups, as well as the Playwrights Festival each August *(see p49)*.

The North Beach district is home to the **Actors Theater of San Francisco**, while the Mission District boasts the satirical **Theater Rhinoceros** and risk-taking **Theater Artaud**. The city's best-loved production, the uniquely San Franciscan revue *Beach Blanket Babylon*, plays at North Beach's **Club Fugazi** *(see p89)*.

Other companies to look out for are **Intersection for the Arts**, the multimedia-oriented **Exit Theater**, and the highly regarded **Berkeley Repertory Theater** in the East Bay.

DIRECTORY

FIRST-RUN FILMS, FOREIGN FILMS AND ART HOUSES

AMC 1000 Van Ness
Map 4 F4.
Tel *(888) 262-4386.*

AMC Kabuki
Map 4 E4.
Tel *346-3243.*

AMC Loews Metreon 16
Map 5 C5.
Tel *(888) 262-4386.*

Castro
Map 10 D2.
Tel *621-6120.*

Century San Francisco Centre
Map 5 C5.
Tel *538-8422.*

Cinematheque
Map 11 B3.
Tel *552-1990.*

Clay
Map 4 D3.
Tel *267-4893.*

Embarcadero
Map 6 C3.
Tel *267-4893.*

Lumiere
Map 4 F3.
Tel *267-4893.*

Opera Plaza
Map 4 F5.
Tel *267-4893.*

Presidio Theater
Map 3 C2.
Tel *776-2388.*

Red Vic
Map 9 B1.
Tel *668-3994.*

Roxie
Map 10 F2.
Tel *863-1087.*

Sony Metreon
Map 5 C5.
Tel *369-6000.*

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
Map 5 C5.
Tel *978-2787.*

FILM FESTIVALS

Lesbian & Gay Film Festival
Map 11 A2.
Tel *703-8650.*
www.frameline.org

Mill Valley Film Festival
38 Miller Ave, Mill Valley.
Tel *383-5256.*

San Francisco International Film Festival
Map 4 D5.
Tel *561-5000.*
www.sffs.org

MAINSTREAM THEATERS

American Conservatory Theater (ACT)
Map 5 B5.
Tel *749-2ACT.*

Curran Theater
Map 5 B5.
Tel *551-2000.*

Golden Gate Theater
Map 5 B5.
Tel *551-2000.*

Marines Memorial Theater
Map 5 B4.
Tel *771-6900.*

New Conservatory Theatre Center
Map 10 F1.
Tel *861-8972.*

Orpheum Theater
Map 11 A1.
Tel *551-2000.*

Stage Door Theater
Map 5 B5.
Tel *749-2228.*

The Marsh
Map 10 F3.
Tel *826-5750.*

ALTERNATIVE THEATER

Actors Theater of San Francisco
Map 5 B4.
Tel *345-1287.*

Berkeley Repertory Theater
2025 Addison St, Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 845-4700.*

Club Fugazi
Map 5 B3.
Tel *421-4222.*
www.beachblanketbabylon.com

Exit Theater
156 Eddy St **Map** 5 B5.
Tel *673-3847.*

Fort Mason Center
Map 4 E1.
Tel *441-3687.*

Intersection for the Arts
Map 10 F2.
Tel *626-2787.*

Magic Theater
Map 4 E1.
Tel *441-8001.*

Theater Artaud
Map 11 A3.
Tel *621-4240.*

Theater Rhinoceros
Map 10 F2.
Tel *552-4100.*

Opera, Classical Music and Dance

Since the Gold Rush days of 1849, San Francisco has prided itself on the variety of its cultural institutions, and its ability to attract world-class performers. Black-tie fundraisers and the Hotel Tax Fund help support the performing arts, and there is great popular support as well, evidenced by the full houses. The main halls, including the War Memorial Opera House and the Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall, are in the Civic Center performing arts complex *(see pp126–7)*. The best times to see a performance are winter and spring, when the opera, symphony and ballet seasons are all in full swing. However, tickets can be hard to obtain, so it is sensible to book well in advance.

OPERA

Beginning well before 1932, when San Francisco built the first municipally owned opera house in the US, opera has been popular in the city. In recent years the San Francisco Opera has achieved international fame as one of the world's finest attracting such stars as Placido Domingo and Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, and artist David Hockney to design the sets. All performances feature English translations of the lyrics, which are projected as "supertitles" above the stage.

The main season runs from September to December, and the opening night is one of the principal social events on the West Coast. Summer special events are held in June and July, when tickets may be easier to obtain.

Ticket prices range from about $10 to $15 (for standing room, sold on day of performance) to more than $100. For advance information, contact the **San Francisco Opera Association**. To find out about ticket availability, contact the **War Memorial Opera House** box office.

Across the bay, the small but high caliber **Berkeley Opera** performs in April and May at the Julia Morgan Theatre.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

The **Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall**, part of the Civic Center performing arts complex, was inaugurated on September 16, 1980. After a great deal of criticism about the acoustics, a decision was made to make alterations, and building work began in 1991. The hall reopened in 1992. It is now San Francisco's principal location for fine classical music performances, and home to the highly regarded **San Francisco Symphony**.

The orchestra performs up to five concerts a week during its September to June season. Guest conductors, performers and various touring orchestras perform additional special concerts, and in July a "Symphony Pops" program is held at the Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall. Next door to the Opera House, the **Herbst Theatre** hosts recitals by prominent performers.

In addition to these big events, there are numerous less formal recitals and concerts in the Bay Area. The **Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra**, a period instrument ensemble, plays at various sites around the city, while the historic **Old First Presbyterian Church** has a series of chamber music and individual recitals on Friday nights and Sunday afternoons throughout the year. The **Florence Gould Theater** in the Legion of Honor *(see pp156–7)* is often used for classical small group performances, including quartets, and there are also demonstrations of classical or pre-classical musical instruments, such as the clavichord.

Across the bay, **Hertz Hall** on the UC Berkeley campus *(see pp176–7)* attracts rising stars of the classical world for its winter and spring seasons, while the innovative **Oakland East Bay Symphony** performs at the Art Deco landmark Paramount Theater.

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

The completion of the **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts** has given a significant boost to contemporary music in San Francisco. Bay Area composers and performers, including John Adams and the internationally acclaimed **Kronos Quartet**, along with others from all over the world, give concerts in the Center's theater as well as in the much smaller Forum. Contemporary composers occasionally hold concerts in the Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall.

The other main spot for new music in the Bay Area is **Zellerbach Hall** on the UC Berkeley campus, while the **Cowell Theater** at Fort Mason also holds events approximately twice a month.

One of the more unusual musical adventures to be found in San Francisco is **Audium**. In this dynamic "sound sculpture," the audience sits through the performance in total darkness, surrounded by hundreds of speakers.

BALLET AND DANCE

Founded in 1933, the **San Francisco Ballet** is the oldest professional ballet company in the US. Under the direction of Helgi Tomasson it has proved itself to be among the best in the world. Starting off with an annual production of Tchaikovsky's Christmas classic *The Nutcracker*, the season runs from February to May. The schedule includes classic works choreographed by Balanchine and others, as well as premières by such leading artists as Mark Morris.

Performances by local talent take place at the intimate **Theater Artaud** and the **ODC Performance Gallery**, both located in the Mission District. The **Yerba Buena**

Center for the Arts is home to the **LINES Contemporary Ballet**, while **Zellerbach Hall** across the Bay attracts the best touring productions, with annual visits by Pilobolus, the Dance Theater of Harlem, and Merce Cunningham.

BACKSTAGE TOURS

Scheduled backstage tours are organized at the Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall and the War Memorial Opera House. You can tour both buildings on Mondays, every half hour from 10am to 2pm. Tours of the Davies Symphony Hall only can be arranged on Wednesdays and Saturdays, but reservations must be made a week ahead. All tours begin at the Grove Street entrance and offer an intriguing firsthand look behind the scene.

FREE EVENTS

In addition to the numerous ticketed events, free concerts and performances are staged all over the city. Most of these are outdoor daytime summer events. For example, the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra holds a late-summer series of Sunday concerts in a natural, wooded amphitheater at Stern Grove *(see p259)*. Members of the San Francisco Opera Company sing a selection of favorite arias for lunchtime crowds in the Financial District on Bush Street as part of the "Brown Bag Operas" series, and in Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park *(see pp143–55)* during "Opera in the Park." Also free are the Tuesday lunchtime recitals at 12:30 at Old St. Mary's Church *(see p98)*. On Fridays at noon during the summer there is "Music in the Park" in the redwood grove behind the Transamerica Pyramid *(see p111)*.

Grace Cathedral is a particularly striking setting for choral church music, performed by the Grace Cathedral Choir of men and boys, founded in 1913. The choir sings at Evensong on Thursdays at 5:15pm, while Choral Eucharist is celebrated on Sundays at 11am.

For details of free and other events, contact the SF Convention and Visitors Bureau *(see p278)*, or call their 24-hour hotline for updates: 415-391-2001. You can also check the "Datebook" section of the Sunday *San Francisco Chronicle/Examiner* or one of the weekly events papers.

DIRECTORY

OPERA

Berkeley Opera Box Office
2138 Cedar St. Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 841-1903.*

San Francisco Opera Association
301 Van Ness Ave.
Map 4 F5.
Tel *861-4008.*

War Memorial Opera House Box Office
199 Grove St (day),
Map 4 E5;
301 Van Ness Ave (eve),
Map 4 F5.
Tel *864-3330.*
www.sfopera.com

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Florence Gould Theater
Legion of Honor,
Lincoln Park.
Map 1 C5. **Tel** *750-3698.*

Herbst Theatre
401 Van Ness Ave.
Map 4 F5.
Tel *621-6600.*

Hertz Hall
UC Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 642-9988.*

Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall Box Office
201 Van Ness Ave.
Map 4 F5.
Tel *864-6000.*

Oakland East Bay Symphony Box Office
2025 Broadway, Oakland.
Tel *(510) 444-0801.*

Old First Presbyterian Church
1751 Sacramento St.
Map 4 F3.
Tel *474-1608.*

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra Box Office
City Box Office,
180 Redwood St,
Suite 100.
Map 4 F5.
Tel *392-4400.*
www.cityboxoffice.com

San Francisco Symphony Box Office
201 Van Ness Ave.
Map 4 F5.
Tel *864-6000.*

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

Audium
1616 Bush St.
Map 4 F4.
Tel *771-1616.*

Cowell Theater
Fort Mason Center
Pier 2.
Map 4 E1.
Tel *441-3687.*

Kronos Quartet
Tel *731-3533.*

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
701 Mission St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *978-2787.*
www.ybca.org

Zellerbach Hall
UC Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 642-9988.*

BALLET AND DANCE

LINES Contemporary Ballet
Yerba Buena Center
for the Arts,
700 Howard St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *978-2787.*

ODC Performance Gallery
3153 17th St.
Map 10 E3.
Tel *863-9834.*

San Francisco Ballet
455 Franklin St. **Map** 4 F4.
Tel *861-5600 or*
865-2000 (box office).
www.sfballet.org

Theater Artaud
450 Florida St.
Map 11 A3.
Tel *621-4240.*

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
See Contemporary Music.

Zellerbach Hall
See Contemporary Music.

BACKSTAGE TOURS

War Memorial Performing Arts Center
199 Grove St. **Map** 4 E5.
Tel *552-8338.*

FREE EVENTS

Grace Cathedral
1051 Taylor St. **Map** 5 B4.
Tel *749-6300.*
www.gracecathedral.org

Rock, Jazz, Blues, and Country Music

You will find almost every genre of popular music played somewhere in San Francisco. It may be Dixieland jazz, country and western, Delta blues, urban rap, psychedelic rock or the latest sounds from West Africa or Eastern Europe. Good groups can be found in ordinary neighborhood bars, and there are a number of good small places with only a minimum charge.

The city's music scene has a long and varied tradition of excellence. It changes swiftly and there is no way to predict what you may find, but whatever it is, it's bound to be good.

MAJOR ARENAS

Big-name international performers are likely to be found at the large, municipal arenas around the Bay Area. In San Francisco itself one of the prime places is the small **Nob Hill Masonic Auditorium**. Two larger venues, the **Cow Palace** and the outdoor **Shoreline Amphitheater**, are south of the city, while the main stadium-scale shows are held across the bay.

Berkeley's outdoor **Greek Theater** hosts a summerlong series of concerts by leading bands and artists. Concord's huge **Sleeptrain Pavilion** features such favorites as Bonnie Raitt, Dave Matthews, and Santana.

The best medium-scale spot in the city is the grand old **Warfield**, which has dancing downstairs and seating in the balcony during its year-round, mostly rock season. Smaller clubs are throughout the city, with the densest concentration in the South of Market (SoMa) area around 11th and Folsom streets, where a handful of rock and jazz clubs are within walking distance of one another. Cover charges at clubs vary from $5 to $20, with the highest prices on weekends. Some places also impose a one- or two-drink minimum. Tickets for concerts cost from $15 to $25 and are available at the box office or through BASS or Ticketmaster, for a small fee *(see p259)*.

For listings and details of events in the city and the Bay Area as a whole, check the *SF Weekly, Bay Guardian* or other local newspapers *(see p287)*; or pick up a free copy of *Bay Area Music (BAM),* which is readily found in record stores and clubs.

ROCK MUSIC

From Metallica and En Vogue to the more mainstream contemporary bands such as Counting Crows and Chris Isaak, San Francisco has a strong, if offbeat, rock music scene. The local bands tend to eschew the trappings of stardom, and most clubs are small, casual places. Bands and performers come from all over the US to give showcase performances at the radio industry's Gavin Convention every February. Events are generally cool, low-key and unpretentious, however, for the rest of the year.

Two of the best rock clubs to hear live music are **Slim's** and **Bimbo's 365 Club**. Bimbo's hosts rock, jazz, country and R&B – and attracts a similarly diverse crowd. Slim's, which is part-owned by musician Boz Scaggs, is a bit more upscale, tending to feature established performers in its comfortable, 436-seat room. Another popular place is the **Fillmore Auditorium**, which is the legendary birthplace of psychedelic rock during the Flower Power 1960s *(see p129)*.

Smaller places to hear good rock music include the **Bottom of the Hill** club in Potrero Hill, the **Hotel Utah** under the I-80 freeway south of Market Street and **Great American Music Hall**. The Bay Area's punk rock world focuses on Berkeley's all-ages **924 Gilman Street** club.

JAZZ

In the late 1950s, the heyday of the Beat Generation *(see p32)*, San Francisco enjoyed one of the liveliest jazz scenes in the entire country. Nightclubs like the legendary Blackhawk vied with the nation's hottest spots for performers such as Miles Davis, John Coltrane, and Thelonius Monk. Things have quieted down considerably since then, but there is still a number of excellent places in the Bay Area where you can hear live jazz.

For traditional Dixieland in an informal (and free) setting, visit the amiable **Gold Dust Lounge**, just off Union Square. If you prefer more modern sounds, choose a club such as **Yoshi's** in Oakland's Jack London Square. Many major jazz and blues artists, like B.B. King and Pat Metheny, perform here. Yoshi's also has a sister venue in San Francisco, where patrons can enjoy outstanding Japanese food while listening to quality (if mainstream) jazz. Alternatively, try the piano bars located in downtown restaurants and hotels, such as the elegant **Rrazz Room** at Hotel Nikko.

Many performers who got their start at **Rassela's Jazz Club** have gone on to become major stars. See if you can catch an up-and-coming act at this jazz hotspot, which features a large dance floor and a fun atmosphere. **Savanna Jazz** is a small, hip venue in the Mission District offering quality jazz and a cozy, warm ambience. If you enjoy dancing, don't miss the swing night on Wednesday. Patrons at **Coda**, also in the Mission, can listen to first-rate artists while enjoying good food.

Many jazz fans plan trips to San Francisco to coincide with the world-famous **Monterey Jazz Festival**, which is held every September in Monterey *(see pp186–7)*. Monterey is located two hours south of San Francisco.

BLUES

San Francisco probably has more blues clubs than anywhere else in the world, except Chicago. Every night of the week, live blues is played somewhere in town, from bars like **The Saloon** to **The Boom Boom Room**, which is owned by musician John Lee Hooker. **Lou's Pier 47**, on Fisherman's Wharf, has live blues bands on the bill almost every day, with special shows on weekends. The award-winning **Biscuits and Blues** has local blues spotlights on weekdays and special shows on weekends.

FOLK, COUNTRY, AND WORLD MUSIC

Although folk music's mass appeal has faded since the fervent days of the 1960s, when singers like Joan Baez and Pete Seeger appeared regularly, fans of the genre can find live performers playing in clubs and coffeehouses all around the Bay Area. Berkeley's **Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse** hosts country and bluegrass bands as well as singer-songwriters, and it is probably the prime folk music club in San Francisco and surrounding area. **Starry Plough** in Berkeley is also mostly folk oriented, although many country/western music stars perform here. **Café Du Nord** has acoustic performers in its underground club.

While down-home country music fans may have to search hard to find anything that suits their tastes, the Bay Area is rich in "World Music," which covers everything from reggae and soca to Taiko drumming and klezmer music. The cozy **Ashkenaz Music & Dance Café** hosts a wildly diverse range of performers.

DIRECTORY

MAJOR ARENAS

Cow Palace
Geneva Ave and Santos St.
Tel *404-4111.*

Greek Theater
UC Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 642-9988.*

Nob Hill Masonic Auditorium
1111 California St.
Map 4 F3.
Tel *292-9191.*
www.masonicauditorium.com

Shoreline Amphitheater
1 Amphitheater Parkway, Mountain View.
Tel *(650) 967-4040.*

Sleeptrain Pavilion
2000 Kirker Pass Road, Concord.
Tel *(925) 676-8742.*

Warfield
982 Market St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *345-0900.*

ROCK MUSIC

Bimbo's 365 Club
1025 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 A2.
Tel *474-0365.*
www.bimbo365clubs.com

Bottom of the Hill
1233 17th St.
Map 11 C3.
Tel *621-4455.*

Fillmore Auditorium
1805 Geary Blvd.
Map 4 D4.
Tel *346-6000.*
www.thefillmore.com

Great American Music Hall
859 O'Farrell St.
Map 5 A5.
Tel *885-0750.*

Hotel Utah
500 4th St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *546-6300.*

924 Gilman Street
924 Gilman St, Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 525-9926.*

Slim's
333 11th St.
Map 10 F1.
Tel *255-0333.*
www.slims-sf.com

JAZZ

Coda
1710 Mission St.
Map 10 F2.
Tel *551-2632.*

Gold Dust Lounge
247 Powell St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *397-1695.*

Monterey Jazz Festival
2000 Fairgrounds Rd at Casa Verde, Monterey.
Tel *(831) 373-3366.*
www.montereyjazzfestival.org

Rassela's Jazz Club
1534 Fillmore St.
Map 10 F2.
Tel *346-8696.*

Rrazz Room
Hotel Nikko,
222 Mason St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *(866) 468-3399.*

Savanna Jazz
2937 Mission St.
Map 10 F3.
Tel *285-3369.*

Yoshi's
510 Embarcadero West, Jack London Sq, Oakland.
Tel *(510) 238-9200.*
1330 Fillmore St.
Map 10 F2.
Tel *655-5600.*

BLUES

Biscuits and Blues
401 Mason St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *292-2583.*

The Boom Boom Room
1601 Fillmore St.
Map 10 F2.
Tel *673-8000.*

Lou's Pier 47
300 Jefferson St.
Map 5 B1.
Tel *771-5687.*

The Saloon
1232 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *989-7666.*

FOLK, COUNTRY, AND WORLD MUSIC

Ashkenaz Music & Dance Café
1317 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 525-5054.*

Café Du Nord
2170 Market St.
Map 10 E2.
Tel *861-5016.*
www.cafedunord.com

Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse
1111 Addison St, Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 548-1761.*

Starry Plough
3101 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 841-2082.*

Nightclubs

Like almost everything else in San Francisco, the city's nightlife is fairly casual, friendly and low-key. There is little of the fashion consciousness of London, New York or Paris, and flashy discos are few and far between. Many of the trendy clubs are open only one or two nights a week, but cover charges and drink prices are generally low.

If you want to sample an aspect of nightlife that is "uniquely San Franciscan," try the stand-up comedy clubs. Although some of the once-vaunted places have closed in recent years, you can still find stand-up done with a special eccentric flair. In addition, San Francisco has many comfortable piano bars in luxurious hotels or restaurants, which are perfect for an entertaining, intimate night out. It is a good idea to rest up after the day so you can enjoy the city after hours, too.

WHERE AND WHEN

Names, times and locations of nightclubs change constantly, and even the most popular places may last no longer than a year. In many ways your best bet is to check the *SF Weekly, Bay Times* and *Bay Guardian (see p287)* and other magazines and newspapers to see what is happening. Most of the larger clubs are located in the industrial South of Market (SoMa) area, and run from around 9pm until 2am. A few stay open all night, especially on weekends, but all places stop serving alcohol at 2am. Always bring valid ID to prove you are over 21 or you will not be admitted.

DANCING

One of San Francisco's liveliest nightclubs is **Ruby Skye** on Mason Street, with its flashy decor, great sound system and fashionably mainstream clientele. R'n'B, hip-hop and jazz are played at **Nickie's** in Haight Ashbury; while **The Sound Factory** and **City Nights**, both on Harrison, feature alternative rock and modern dance music; take a cab home after club hours in this iffy neighborhood.

Suite one8one has two dance floors and a gorgeous outdoor patio for when you want a break from the house, funk and hip-hop music. **The Mexican Bus** is a real bus that takes you to three different salsa dance clubs in one evening. **The Cellar** is a popular "underground" hotspot playing a good mix of sounds from the 1980s and 90s, plus some hip-hop. **Ten 15** is another venue where the music is varied and the atmosphere electric. Also in this area is the after-hours **Cat Club**, which stays lively until dawn with acid jazz and alternative-industrial sounds, as well as a popular '80s night. Check out **330 Ritch Street**, where you can enjoy house music, goth, Brit pop, mod, indie, R'n'B and hip hop.

Devotees of salsa should head straight for **Cafe Cocomo**, with the hottest live salsa and dance lessons most nights of the week from 8pm onwards.

GAY AND LESBIAN CLUBS

Some of San Francisco's most popular clubs are primarily, though rarely exclusively, homosexual. These include the ever-popular **Endup**, which is open around the clock from Friday night until Monday morning for nonstop dancing. Other gay and lesbian clubs include **El Rio** in the Mission District and the urban cowboy **Club Hide**, which has square dancing every night; **Chaps II** is another popular venue.

There are also a number of dance clubs on and around 18th Street in the Castro District, such as the **Midnight Sun**. In the East Bay, the **White Horse Inn** has been a popular bar and dance club since the early 1960s.

Gay and lesbian nightclubs tend to change even more quickly than their straight counterparts, so check listings and ads beforehand in local papers like *Bay Times* and *Bay Area Reporter*. Gay men in particular can check *Betty and Pansy's Severe Queer Review*.

PIANO BARS

The name "piano bar" does not really do justice to the variety of bars and nightclubs presented here. They all have nightly live music, usually jazz, to enjoy just for the price of a drink. Many of the most fabulous clubs in the city are in four-star hotels. A few blocks from the Theater District, **The Lush Lounge** offers stiff martinis in a funky setting. The Art Deco-style **Top of the Mark** sits high above Nob Hill at the top of the Mark Hopkins Hotel. Other good roof-top piano bars are **Grand View** on the 36th floor of Union Square's Grand Hyatt Hotel, which offers great food, good music, and panoramic views, and **Four Seasons Bar**, an elegant hotel piano bar with cozy fireplaces and leather chairs and spectacular views of the Financial District.

Other piano bars are found in the better restaurants, where you can enjoy music before, during or after dinner. In North Beach, the **Washington Square Bar & Grill** offers nightly entertainment and better-than-average food and drink. It is popular with advertising and media types. Drop into **Lefty O'Doul's** for good piano bar music with an obvious Irish lilt and a fine selection of ales.

The Theater District west of Union Square has lively venues, such as **Johnny Foley's Irish Bar**. Talented pianists "duel" in this dark basement bar that encourages the crowd to sing along. Farther west still, **Sheba's Piano Lounge** is a romantic spot that serves up live music and delicious Ethiopian fare seven nights a week. **Harry Denton's Starlight Room** has nightly live music in a classy setting on the 21st floor at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel. Just off Market Street, **Martuni's** offers stiff martinis and classic sing-alongs for a diverse crowd. Last but not least is the **Tonga Room** in the lower level of the Fairmont Hotel *(see p213)*. In this elaborate Polynesian-style cocktail bar you can dance or just listen to jazz – interrupted every half-hour by a simulated rainstorm.

COMEDY CLUBS

The city's once-thriving live comedy scene spawned the famous comedian and movie actor Robin Williams, among many other talents. While the comedy scene has been cut back considerably, there is usually something happening somewhere in the city every night of the week at a bar or café. Check local newspapers for listings *(see p287)*.

Some of the best shows take place at **Tommy T's Comedy House**, with such regular artists as Bobby Slayton, Will Durst, and Richard Stockton. Other clubs with stand-up comedy acts and improvisation are **Marsh's Mock Cafe-Theater** in the Mission and **Cobb's Comedy Club** in North Beach, as well as **The Punchline**. **Kimo's** has been a Polk Street landmark for decades. It features drag, cabaret and comedy shows every week.

Shows usually start at 8pm, with late-night performances at weekends beginning at around 10pm. Most venues cost around $15 and can operate a one- or two-drink minimum policy.

DIRECTORY

DANCING

330 Ritch St
330 Ritch St.
Map 11 C1.
Tel *541-9574.*

Cafe Cocomo
650 Indiana (at Mariposa).
Map 11 C3.
Tel *824-6910.*
www.cafecocomo.com

Cat Club
1190 Folsom St.
Map 11 A2.
Tel *703-8965.*
www.catclubsf.com

The Cellar
685 Sutter St.
Map 5 B4.
Tel *441-5678.*

City Nights
715 Harrison St.
Map 5 D5.
Tel *339-8686*
(SF Club hotline).

The Mexican Bus
call for bus pick-up
Tel *546-3747.*
www.mexicanbus.com

Nickie's
466 Haight St.
Map 10 E1.
Tel *621-6508.*

Ruby Skye
420 Mason St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *693-0777.*

The Sound Factory
525 Harrison St.
Map 5 D5.
Tel *339-8686*
(SF Club hotline).

Suite one8one
181 Eddy St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *345-9900.*

Ten 15
1015 Folsom St.
Map 11 B1.
Tel *431-1200.*

GAY AND LESBIAN CLUBS

Chaps II
1225 Folsom St.
Map 11 A1.
Tel *255-2427.*

Club Hide
280 Seventh St.
Map 11 A1.
Tel *621-1197.*

El Rio
3158 Mission St.
Map 10 F4.
Tel *282-3325.*
www.elriosf.com

Endup
401 6th St. **Map** 11 B1.
Tel *357-0827.*

Midnight Sun
4067 18th St. **Map** 10 D3.
Tel *861-4186.*

White Horse Inn
6551 Telegraph Ave,
Oakland.
Tel *(510) 652-3820.*

PIANO BARS

Four Seasons Bar
Four Seasons Hotel,
757 Market St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *633-3000.*

Grand View
Grand Hyatt Hotel,
24th Floor,
345 Stockton St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *398-1234.*

Harry Denton's Starlight Room
450 Powell St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *395-8595.*

Johnny Foley's Irish Bar
243 O'Farrell St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *954-0777.*

Lefty O'Doul's
333 Geary St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *982-8900.*

Lush Lounge
1221 Polk St.
Map 5 A5.
Tel *771-2022.*
www.lushlounge.com

Martuni's
4 Valencia St.
Map 10 F1.
Tel *241-0205.*

Sheba's Piano Lounge
1419 Fillmore St.
Map 4 D5.
Tel *440-7414.*

Tonga Room
950 Mason St.
Map 5 B4.
Tel *772-5278.*

Top of the Mark
Mark Hopkins
Inter-Continental Hotel,
1 Nob Hill.
Map 5 B4.
Tel *616-6916.*

Washington Square Bar & Grill
1707 Powell St.
Map 5 B2.
Tel *433-1188.*

COMEDY

Cobb's Comedy Club
915 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 B2.
Tel *928-4320.*

Kimo's
1351 Polk St.
Map 4 F4.
Tel *885-4535.*

Marsh's Mock Cafe-Theater
1074 Valencia.
Map 10 F3.
Tel *826-5750.*

The Punchline
444 Battery St.
Map 6 D3.
Tel *397-7573.*
www.punchlinecomedyclub.com

Tommy T's Comedy House
5104 Hopyard Rd,
Pleasanton.
Tel *(925) 227-1804.*
www.tommyts.com

San Francisco's Bars

San Francisco has been a drinkers' town ever since the heady days of the Gold Rush *(see pp24–5)*, when there was a saloon for every 50 residents. The bawdy public houses of the mid-19th century no longer exist. Instead, today, you can drink with a view; grab a local brew; sip an elegant, sweet cocktail in a chic lounge; sample a fine local country vintage wine; mingle with cheering local fans at a sports bar; see satellite-broadcast matches from Europe and soak up charm and an occasional concert at an Irish Bar. Alternatively, you can observe how a notable segment of San Francisco's population parties at a gay bar.

ROOFTOP BARS

Those with a head for heights and a craving to be above the hills can visit the bars at the top of the towers in the city center. Grand Hyatt's **Grand View Lounge**, the **View Lounge** at Marriott Hotel, and **Top of the Mark** at the Mark Hopkins *(see p102)* all offer splendid views and evening jazz along with dance music. **Cityscape** is on the 46th floor of the Hilton Hotel, with no pillars to obstruct the view.

BEER BARS

For a more down-to-earth experience, visit one of the city's many beer bars, popular gathering places for the after-work crowd and weekend revelers. The best of these specialize in beers brewed by West Coast breweries, including San Francisco's fine Anchor Steam and Liberty Ale.

One of the best, the English **Mad Dog in the Fog**, is situated on Haight Street. **Magnolia Pub & Brewery**, in a 1903 Haight Victorian, retains its original wooden bar and name from ex-dancer Magnolia Thunderpussy. **The Thirsty Bear**, known for its tapas, and the upscale **Gordon Biersch Brewery** make their own excellent beer on the premises. In North Beach, **The Church Key** is a charming dive bar with a huge beer list. This popular hangout is easy to miss – its entrance is marked simply by a sign featuring a key. At the Pacific Ocean edge of Golden Gate Park, **Beach Chalet**'s brews combine with fine views.

COCKTAILS BARS

Traditional cocktail bars, with a chatty bartender holding court in front of rows of gleaming bottles, are great fun in San Francisco, and there are plenty of venues to choose from.

Singles often drink at **Harry Denton's Starlight Room**, and those in the need-to-be-seen crowd are in the Clift Hotel **Redwood Room**, with a backlit bar and upper tier cocktail prices. A lively bohemian crowd can be found along Columbus Avenue at **Specs'**, **Tosca**, and **Vesuvio** – a one-time beatnik hangout where a poular house drink is the Jack Kerouac (rum, tequila, orange/cranberry juice and lime). Banquettes, potent cocktail and Rat Pack-era decor mix with a relaxed North Beach crowd at **Tony Niks**.

Across town in the Mission District, **Elixir** is a neighborhood bar with darts, and a wooden back-bar in a Victorian building that once had a bootblack on the premises. Also in the Mission, **Nihon Whiskey Lounge** has the largest single-malt selection on the West Coast, plus innovative whiskey and champagne cocktails, and a delectable menu of Japanese food. **Buena Vista Café** is the 1952 birthplace of Irish coffee and serves 2,000 glasses per day. **Minx** is as close as it gets to a classic, deep color cocktail lounge. Other bars, such as **Café du Nord**, in a former Prohibition speakeasy, and the award-winning **Biscuits and Blues** have live jazz.

WINE BARS

With the proximity to Northern California Wine Country, the **Ferry Plaza Wine Merchant Bar**, surrounded by artisan cheesemakers, bakers and other gourmet outlets, is a fine spot to sample wines.

Champagne and candlelight create the atmosphere of the **Bubble Lounge**. Not far from Union Square is **Press Club**, a wine-tasting bar and lounge serving wines from six of Northern California's most prestigious wineries. At **Hidden Vine**, also in Union Square, patrons can share and taste delectable California wines, as well as rare offerings from other regions. In the vibrant Marina District, **BIN38** entices with a great selection of small-production wines, while **Diablo Grande Wine Gallery** features its own estate-bottled wines in SoMa's museum area.

THEMED BARS

One of the best spots to connect with local passion is **Knuckles Sports Bar**, with more than 24 televisions for live broadcasts. Bring your own food or snacks to the drinks-only **Greens Sports Bar**. **Buckshot Restaurant, Bar & Gameroom** offers food and drinks, music, a pool table, old-school video-games, and skee ball. Irish cheer and Guinness are quaffed at **The Irish Bank** and **The Chieftain**.

GAY BARS

Watering holes popular with the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered range from leather, biker, latex, and fetish-specialized to bars favored simply because the clientele is predominatly of one type. The Castro, SoMa and Mission Districts are magnet areas. **Daddy's**, in the Castro, draws a Levi's and leather crowd. **The Stud** and **Endup** keep drinks flowing with the dancing. **Cherry Bar** hosts live music-filled nights for ladies, while **Divas** is a well-known transgendered spot.

DIRECTORY

ROOFTOP BARS

Cityscape
46th floor, Hilton Hotel, 333 O'Farrell St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *771-1400.*

Grand View Lounge
36th floor, Grand Hyatt Hotel, 345 Stockton St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *398-1234.*

Top of the Mark
19th floor, Mark Hopkins InterContinental Hotel, 999 California St.
Map 5 B4.
Tel *616-6916.*

View Lounge
39th floor, Marriott Hotel 55 4th St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *896-1600.*

BEER BARS

Beach Chalet
1000 Great Hwy.
Map 7 A2.
Tel *386-8439.*

The Church Key
1402 Grant Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *963-1713.*

Gordon Biersch Brewery
2 Harrison St.
Map 6 E4.
Tel *243-8246.*

Mad Dog in the Fog
530 Haight St.
Map 10 E1.
Tel *626-7279.*

Magnolia Pub & Brewery
1398 Haight St.
Map 9 C1.
Tel *864-7468.*

The Thirsty Bear
661 Howard St.
Map 6 D5.
Tel *974-0905.*

COCKTAIL BARS

Biscuits and Blues
401 Mason St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *292-2583.*

Buena Vista Café
2765 Hyde St.
Map 4 F1.
Tel *747-5044.*

Café du Nord
2170 Market St.
Map 10 D2.
Tel *861-5016.*

Elixir
3200 16th St. at Guerrero St.
Map 10 E2.
Tel *552-1633.*

Harry Denton's Starlight Room
450 Powell St.
Map 5 B4.
Tel *395-8595.*

Minx
827 Sutter St.
Map 5 B4.
Tel *346-7666.*

Nihon Whiskey Lounge
1779 Folsom St.
Map 10 F2.
Tel *552-4400.*

Redwood Room
495 Geary St (at Clift Hotel).
Map 5 B5.
Tel *775-4700.*

Specs'
12 Adler Place (across Columbus Ave from Vesuvio).
Map 5 C3.
Tel *421-4112.*

Tony Niks
1534 Stockton St.
Map 5 B2.
Tel *693-0990.*

Tosca
242 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *391-1244.*

Vesuvio
255 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *362-3370.*

WINE BARS

BIN38
3232 Scott St.
Map 3 C2.
Tel *567-3838.*

Bubble Lounge
714 Montgomery St.
Map 5 C3.
Tel *434-4204.*

Diablo Grande Wine Gallery
669 Mission St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *543-4343.*

Ferry Plaza Wine Merchant Bar
One Ferry Building, Shop 23.
Map 6 E3.
Tel *391-9400.*

Hidden Vine
620 Post St.
Map 5 B5.
Tel *674-3567.*

Press Club
20 Yerba Buena Lane.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *744-5000.*

THEMED BARS

Buckshot Restaurant, Bar & Gameroom
3848 Geary Blvd.
Map 3 A5.
Tel *831-8838.*

The Chieftain
195 5th St.
Map 11 B1.
Tel *615-0916.*

Greens Sports Bar
2339 Polk St.
Map 5 A3.
Tel *775-4287.*

The Irish Bank
10 Mark Lane (off Bush St).
Map 5 B4.
Tel *788-7152.*

Knuckles Sports Bar at Hyatt Fish Wharf
555 North Point St.
Map 5 A1.
Tel *563-1234.*

GAY BARS

Cherry Bar
917 Folsom St.
Map 11 B1.
Tel *974-1585.*

Daddy's
440 Castro St.
Map 10 D3.
Tel *621-8732.*

Divas
1081 Post St.
Map 4 F4.
Tel *474-3482.*

Endup
401 6th St.
Map 11 B2.
Tel *646-0999.*

The Stud
399 9th St.
Map 11 A2.
Tel *863-6623.*

Sports and Outdoor Activities

San Franciscans are sports enthusiasts, and there are plenty of activities to suit every taste. You can choose from a range of public and private health clubs, swimming pools, tennis courts and golf courses. Spectator sports are provided by two baseball teams, professional football, basketball and hockey, plus numerous Bay Area college games. Outdoor activities include cycling, skiing, boat trips and kayaking. Whale-watching adventures are also fun to try. Tickets are available through **Ticketmaster** *(see p258)* or other ticket agents *(see p273)*.

FOOTBALL

The home ground of the **San Francisco 49ers** is Monster Park. The **Oakland Raiders** play at **Network Associates Coliseum**. Local colleges, including the **University of California** at Berkeley and **Stanford University** in Palo Alto, also have good football teams.

WHALE WATCHING

If you visit San Francisco in winter, don't miss the chance to experience one of nature's greatest shows, the annual migration of the California gray whale. These huge mammals are sometimes visible from headlands like Point Reyes *(see p160)*, but the best way to see them is to join an ocean-going charter trip, tickets for which are available from **Tickets.com** or Ticketmaster *(see p259)*.

The most informative trips are those offered by the **Oceanic Society Expeditions**. They sail west to the Farallon Islands, where you may also see rare birds and blue whales as well as migrating gray whales. Many whale-watching trips leave from Half Moon Bay *(see pp186–7)*, 20 miles (32 km) south of San Francisco.

Tickets.com
Tel *(510) 762-2277.*

Oceanic Society Expeditions
Fort Mason. **Map** 4 E1.
Tel *441-1106.*

BASEBALL

Two professional baseball teams play in the Bay Area. The National League **San Francisco Giants** play their home games at the state-of-the art stadium at AT&T Park. The American League **Oakland Athletics** (the A's) play at the Network Associates Coliseum in Oakland.

BASKETBALL

The Bay Area's only NBA basketball team is the **Golden State Warriors**, who play at the Oakland Coliseum Arena. The Golden Bears of **UC Berkeley** also play some games there, but most of their home games take place on campus, as do all of **Stanford University**'s.

ICE HOCKEY

Home games of the **San José Sharks**, the Bay Area's only professional ice hockey team, are played at the San José Arena in central San José, about one hour south of San Francisco.

GYMS AND HEALTH CLUBS

Large business hotels usually have health club facilities on the premises. Those that don't usually have an agreement with a private club that gives short-term membership to hotel guests. If neither option is available, choose from the upscale **Bay Club**, near the Financial District, the well-maintained **Crunch Fitness**, or the basic **24-Hour Nautilus Fitness Center**.

BOATING

Unless you are fortunate to know someone willing to take you out on their yacht, the only way to sail around the bay is to rent a boat from **Cass' Marina** in Sausalito, where lessons and piloted charters are also available. For more limited water trips, rent a kayak from the **Sea Trek Ocean Kayak Center** or a rowboat, pedal boat or motorboat from the **Stow Lake Boathouse** in Golden Gate Park.

GOLF COURSES

Golfers have a wide range of courses to choose from, including municipal links in **Lincoln Park** and **Golden Gate Park** and the beautiful **Presidio Golf Club**. Farther away, some of the world's most famous courses line the Pacific Ocean in Carmel *(see pp186–7)*, where for about $275–$300 you can test your skills and play a round or two at the renowned **Pebble Beach Golf Links**.

SKIING

For skiing, San Franciscans head east to the mountains of Lake Tahoe *(see pp196–9)*, where resorts like **Heavenly** and **Alpine Meadows** provide excellent slopes for all levels of ability, amid gorgeous alpine vistas. The biggest resort, **Squaw Valley**, is just north of the lake and was the site of the 1960 Winter Olympics. Also within reach of the Bay Area are **Badger Pass**, in Yosemite National Park *(see pp200–201)*, and cross-country oriented **Kirkwood Ski Resort**. Skiing equipment can be rented at all these resorts, and lessons are also available.

SWIMMING

Most public swimming pools are out in the suburban fringes, so for times and fees contact **City of San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department** swimming information line. To swim in the chilly ocean, head to China Beach, the only safe beach in the city. Join the "Polar Bear Club" and swim in the bay. There are also two swimming clubs at Aquatic Park *(see pp172–3)*, the **Dolphin Club** and the **South End Rowing Club**. If you are in San Francisco over the New Year, watch the New Year's Day sponsored swim organized by these two clubs for their members *(see p51)*.

BICYCLING

Cycling up and down San Francisco's steep hills may not seem like a sensible idea, but if you plan your route well a bike can be the best way to appreciate the city. Particularly on weekends, when the traffic is comparatively quiet, riding along the Embarcadero and the Golden Gate Promenade gives great views of the bay. The Presidio and Golden Gate Park area is also ideal for cycling, and where most rental shops are, including **Stow Lake Bike Rentals**. In North Beach, **Blazing Saddles** rents bikes.

In the Wine Country *(see pp190–93)*, you can take advantage of the tours organized by **Backroads Bicycle Tours**. Many are multi-day tours through Napa and Sonoma counties as well as through Alexander Valley.

TENNIS

There are good tennis courts in almost all of the city's public parks, with the largest group in Golden Gate Park. All city courts have been renovated, and many have lights for night games. They are all operated by the **City of San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department**. For details, phone their information line. The **San Francisco Tennis Club** has 24 indoor and outdoor courts and offers private and group lessons. Guests staying at the famed **Claremont Resort, Spa and Tennis Club** *(see p163)* can have lessons and play tennis to their heart's content.

DIRECTORY

TICKETS

Golden State Warriors
Oakland Coliseum Arena.
Tel *(1) (888) 479-4667.*

Oakland Athletics
Tel *(510) 638-0500.*

Oakland Raiders
Tel *(1) (800) 949-2626.*

San Francisco 49ers
Candlestick Park.
Tel *656-4900.*

San Francisco Giants
AT&T Park.
Tel *972-2000.*
www.sfgiants.com

San José Sharks
San José Arena.
Tel *(408) 287-7070.*

Stanford University Athletics
Stanford University.
Tel *(1) (800) STANFORD.*

Tickets.com
Tel *(510) 762-2277.*

UC Berkeley Intercollegiate Athletics
UC Berkeley.
Tel *(1) (800) 462-3277.*

HEALTH CLUBS

Bay Club
150 Greenwich St.
Map 5 C2.
Tel *433-2550.*

Crunch Fitness
345 Spear St. **Map** 6 E4.
Tel *495-1939.*
www.crunch.com

24-Hour Nautilus Fitness Center
1200 Van Ness St.
Map 4 F4.
Tel *776-2200.*
www.24hourfitness.com
One of several branches.

BOATING

Cass' Marina
1702 Bridgeway, Sausalito.

Sea Trek Ocean Kayak Center
Schoonmaker Point Marina, Sausalito.
Tel *488-1000.*

Stow Lake Boathouse
Golden Gate Park.
Map 8 E2.
Tel *752-0347.*

GOLF COURSES

Golden Gate Park
(Municipal 9 hole).
Map 7 B2.
Tel *751-8987.*

Lincoln Park
(Municipal 18 hole).
Map 1 C5.
Tel *221-9911.*

Pebble Beach Golf Links
Pebble Beach.
Tel *(831) 624 3811.*

Presidio Golf Club
300 Finley Rd. **Map** 3 A3.
Tel *561-4653.*

SKIING

Alpine Meadows
Tahoe City.
Tel *(530) 583-4232.*

Badger Pass
Yosemite National Park.
Tel *(209) 372-1001.*

Heavenly Ski Resort
Stateline, Nevada.
Tel *(775) 586-7000.*

Kirkwood Ski Resort
Kirkwood.
Tel *(209) 258-6000.*

Squaw Valley USA
Squaw Valley.
Tel *(530) 583-6985.*

SWIMMING

City of San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department
Tel *831-2700.*
www.parks.sf.gov.org

Dolphin Club
502 Jefferson St.
Map 4 F1.
Tel *441-9329.*
www.dolphinclub.com

South End Rowing Club
500 Jefferson St.
Map 4 F1. ***Tel*** *776-7372.*
www.southend.org

CYCLING

Backroads Bicycle Tours
1516 Fifth St, Berkeley.
Tel *(510) 527-1555.*
www.backroads.com

Blazing Saddles
1095 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 A2.
Tel *202-8888.*
www.blazingsaddles.com
One of two branches.

Stow Lake Bike Rentals
Golden Gate Park.
Map 8 E2.
Tel *752-0347.*

TENNIS

City of San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department
Tel *831-2700.*
www.parks.sf.gov.org

Claremont Resort, Spa & Tennis Club
41 Tunnel Rd, Oakland.
Tel *(510) 843-3000.*
www.claremont resort.com

San Francisco Tennis Club
645 5th St.
Map 11 B1.
Tel *777-9000.*

CHILDREN'S SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco is full of attractions that can satisfy children's curiosity and never-ending quest for adventure and fun. Many museums tailor their exhibits to spark a child's imagination and occupy busy little hands. Colorful street fairs run from spring to fall. And year-round, the days of the Gold Rush, the Wild West and gangsters imprisoned on Alcatraz come alive with a visit to historic sites. Children can see exotic animals up close at the zoo, or enjoy the varied attractions of Golden Gate Park. This is a city for families, and many places offer free or discounted admission for children.

PRACTICAL ADVICE

Families are well provided for in San Francisco. Family discounts at most hotels allow children to stay in their parents' room free of charge, and cots and cribs are usually available. Most hotels will arrange babysitters, or licensed agencies such as the **American Child Care Services, Inc.** will provide experienced childcare.

Parking is costly, but public transportation is excellent. Plan your trip, using the map on the inside back cover of this book, to include an exciting combination of buses, streetcars and cable cars; each is an adventure in itself. Under-fives travel free on public transportation. There are reduced fares for children aged 5 to 17, and 1, 3 and 7-day Muni Passports for all age groups *(see p294)*.

Use the pay public toilets *(see p279)* or rest rooms in large hotels and stores; they are usually well kept. Medications are available 24 hours a day at Walgreen's Drugstore *(see p283)*.

Current activities that are recommended for families are listed in the quarterly *San Francisco Book* and *Arts Monthly* calendar *(see p287)*.

Meeting a Barbados sheep at San Francisco Children's Zoo

Crazy Castle at San Francisco Zoo

WILDLIFE

Animal lovers will find a wealth of wildlife in the Bay Area. Drive or take the ferry to **Six Flags Marine World** in Vallejo and spend the day riding an elephant or coming nose-to-nose with a dolphin. At the Marine Mammal Center in the Marin Headlands *(see pp174–5)* you can get close to rescued sea lions. San Francisco Zoo *(see p160)* makes a good day or half-day trip. Here you can watch the antics of a lowland gorilla family in Gorilla World and feed penguin chicks in the world's most successful breeding colony. The **Josephine D. Randall Junior Museum** has a petting zoo and nature walks. Oceanic Society Expeditions *(see p299)* sail 25 miles (40 km) into the Pacific to the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Trips run all through the year, but gray whales are best seen from December to April.

MUSEUMS

Many museums are action-packed for children. At the California Academy of Sciences *(see pp150–51)* you can ride out an earthquake in the Earthquake! Theater. The Academy is also home to the Morrison Planetarium and the huge Steinhart Aquarium's 8,000 marine specimens. **Zeum** at the Rooftop in Yerba Buena Gardens, is an interactive facility where kids can explore the media arts. The Rooftop includes an ice-skating rink and a 1906 carousel.

The **Bay Area Discovery Museum** is for 2 to 12-year-olds, offering a activities to encourage budding imaginations. The **Exploratorium** *(see pp60–61)* is acclaimed for its 700-plus hands-on exhibits. Adventurous children visiting its Tactile Dome have to rely on their sense of touch to find a way out of the complete darkness. Don't miss the Wells Fargo History Museum *(see p110)*, where your children can

A welcoming face for children

relive the Gold Rush days, hopping aboard a stagecoach, tapping out a telegraph message and discovering gold. Admission is free, and also at the Maritime Historical Park *(see p83)*, a nautical treasure-house of ship models and relics. Three of the museum's restored historic ships can be explored at Hyde Street Pier.

Museums at Fisherman's Wharf are designed to amuse, mystify, horrify and fascinate youngsters. Sample the delights of Ripley's Believe It Or Not! *(see p82)*, and the Wax Museum *(see p82)*. Everyone can enjoy the restored marshland, dunes, and beach at Crissy Field in the Presidio.

OUTDOOR FUN

The most exciting way to take children around town is on the cable cars *(see pp296–7)*. For a thrilling descent, ride the last leg of the Powell–Hyde line to Aquatic Park *(see pp172–3)*, then take the nearby ferry to Alcatraz Island *(see pp84–7)*.

In Golden Gate Park *(see pp142–57)* there are riding stables, bike trails, boating lakes, a carousel in the Children's Playground and even a herd of bison. **Paramount's Great America** is a theme park with 100 acres of rides and shows.

SHOPPING

At **Basic Brown Bear** shoppers can tour the factory and buy and stuff their own huggable bear. **Gamescape** sells all kinds of non-electric games, or watch chocolate being made at the Ghirardelli Chocolate Manufactory *(see p83)*, and then buy candy to eat or to take home as presents and souvenirs.

Children on the beach at Crissy Field *(see pp58–9)*

INDOOR FUN

Slightly older children can burn off their excess energy at **Mission Cliffs**, an enormous indoor rock-climbing gym. For creative fun, try the Exploratium for interesting, hands-on exhibits. Zeum and Sony Metreon are musts for children of all ages. **AcroSports** is a huge acrobatic arena that caters to both kids and adults. Check out the interactive Circus Workshop, book a private lesson in contortion or tumbling, or simply catch a show.

EATING OUT

Fast food is available all over the city, from take-out *dim sum* in Chinatown to burgers in Union Square. For a more relaxed meal, most restaurants welcome children and provide high chairs and special menus for them. **California Pizza Kitchen** and **The Night Kitchen** at Metreon serve tasty pizzas with unique toppings, sandwiches and salads. Surrounded by animated wildlife and other special effects, eating out at the **Rainforest Café** is a wonderful experience.

Riding stables in Golden Gate Park

DIRECTORY

BABY SITTERS

American Child Care Services, Inc.
Tel *285-2300.*

WILDLIFE

Josephine D Randall Junior Museum
199 Museum Way. **Map** 10 D2.
Tel *554-9600.*

Six Flags Marine World
Marine World Parkway, Vallejo.
☎ *(707) 643-ORCA.*

MUSEUMS

Bay Area Discovery Museum
557 East Fort Baker, Sausalito.
Tel *339-3900.*
www.badm.org

Zeum
221 4th St. **Map** 5 C5.
Tel *777-2800.*

OUTDOOR FUN

Great America
Tel *(408) 988-1776.*

SHOPPING

Basic Brown Bear
2801 Leavenworth St.
Map 5 A1 ***Tel*** *409-2806.*
www.basicbrownbear.com

Gamescape
333 Divisadero St. **Map** 10 D1.
Tel *621-4263.*

INDOOR FUN

AcroSports
639 Frederick St. **Map** 9 B2.
Tel *665-2276.*

Mission Cliffs
2295 Harrison St.
Map 11 A4. ***Tel*** *550-0515.*

EATING OUT

California Pizza Kitchen
53 3rd St. **Map** 5 C5.
Tel *278-0443.*

Rainforest Café
145 Jefferson St.
Map 5 A1. ☎ *440-5610.*
www.rainforestcafe.com

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HYDE & BEACH FISHERMANS WHARF
FISHERMANS WHARF

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Badge on State Building

San Francisco proclaims itself as "Everybody's Favorite City," an accolade that is confirmed by the many awards heaped on its facilities. All visitors, from the economy-minded to the extravagant, will find a wide range of hotels *(see pp206–21)*, restaurants *(pp222–43)*, shops *(pp244–57)*, entertainment options *(pp258–73)*, and guided tours *(p293)* to suit their budget. Getting around the city is easy and usually safe, provided you use common sense *(p282)*. The practical information on these pages will help you locate banks *(pp284–5)* and medical resources *(p283)*, and the tips included here address everything from making long-distance phone calls *(p286)* to riding a cable car *(pp296–7)*.

VISAS AND PASSPORTS

Holders of a valid European Union, Australian, or New Zealand passport who are also in possession of a return ticket are not required to have visas if staying in the US for 90 days or less. However, they must register online via the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov). Applications must be made at least 72 hours before travel and there is a charge.

Canadians and returning Americans must have a passport or other accepted form of official ID.

Entry requirements are prone to change so contact your local US embassy for current requirements.

CUSTOMS INFORMATION

Upon arrival at San Francisco International Airport *(see pp288–9)*, travelers from outside the US should follow the signs that read "Other than American Passports" to immigration counters for passport inspection and stamping. Proceed to customs, where an officer will check your passport, take your finger prints and a digital picture, and review the declaration you filled in on your flight. You will then be directed either to the exit or to another officer who may search your luggage. It takes on average 30–60 minutes (including the wait) to complete these formalities.

Customs allowances for visitors over the age of 21 entering the US are: 200 cigarettes, 50 cigars (not from Cuba), or 3 lb (1.4 kg) of tobacco; no more than 1 liter (2 pints) of alcohol; and gifts that are worth no more than $100. Meat or meat products (even in cans), illegal drugs, cheese, seeds, live plants, and fresh fruit are not allowed. Foreign visitors to the US may bring in or take out up to $10,000 in US or foreign currency.

Rows of brochures at the San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau

TOURIST INFORMATION

Maps, guides, listings, and passes for attractions and public transportation can be found at the **San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau** *(see p117)*. This office also has two free guides for visitors: the *San Francisco Book* details concerts, shows, nightclubs, and restaurants; while *San Francisco Arts Monthly* has film, theater, visual arts, music, and dance listings. *This Week in San Francisco* and the monthly *Where Magazine* are available free from hotels and stores.

CityPASS ticket

The "Datebook" section of Sunday's *San Francisco Chronicle* lists the major arts and entertainment events in the city. Other good sources of information are Friday's "Weekend" section of the *San Francisco Examiner* and the listings in *The Bay Guardian* and *SF Weekly* (both free).

ADMISSION CHARGES

Although there are a number of free entertainment options in the city, most attractions charge an admission fee of between $5 and $10. The Conservatory of Flowers and Japanese Tea Garden, both in Golden Gate Park *(see pp143–55)*, charge $7 and $5 respectively. A trip to Alcatraz *(see pp84–7)*, including the ferry ride there and back, costs $26 ($33 for the night tour), with discounts for seniors and children under 11; kids under the age of 4 go free *(see p299)*.

San Francisco is well known for its live music scene, which features both emerging local bands and established international artists. Cover charges and tickets for concerts run from $5 to $30. In the summer, free weekly Sunday concerts are held amid the redwoods in Stern Grove, but be sure to arrive early to get a decent seat.

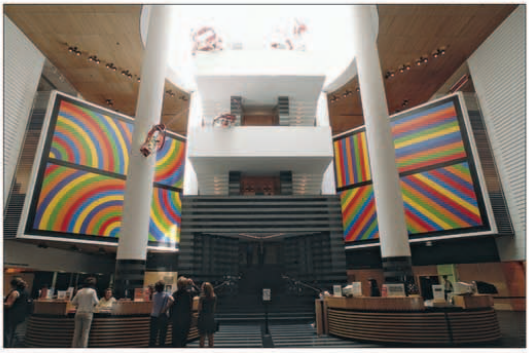
Major museums, such as the Museum of Modern Art *(see pp118–21)*, have entry fees ranging from $5 to $10, but discounts are available for senior citizens, children, and students. Many museums have discounted admission on Thursdays, and most large institutions offer free entrance once a month (phone for details), in addition to free guided tours, demonstrations, and lectures. Smaller museums are either free or request a donation.

In Fort Mason *(see pp74–5)*, Yerba Buena Gardens *(see pp114–15)*, and Golden Gate Park, several museums and venues are grouped together. Golden Gate Park's Culture Pass allows the holder entrance to three museums and two attractions, saving 30 percent on admission charges. A CityPASS, available from the SF Convention and Visitors Bureau, offers reduced rates on several must-see sights and public transportation.

OPENING HOURS

Most businesses in San Francisco are open on weekdays from 9am to 5pm. Shops *(see p244)* typically stay open until 8pm to allow for after-work errands. All banks operate from 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday; in addition, some banks open as early as 7:30am, some close at 6pm, and some offer Saturday morning hours. Almost all banks have cash machines operating round the clock.

Some museums are closed on Mondays and/or Tuesdays and major public holidays. Some occasionally stay open in the evening (see individual entries). Closing time for bars is 2am; no liquor can be served in California between the hours of 2am and 6am.


The lobby of San Francisco's Museum of Modern Art

ETIQUETTE AND SMOKING

Although more formal than the carefree sandals-and-shorts approach of Southern California, Northern California is still fairly laid-back. Even at elegant restaurants in San Francisco, it's not uncommon to see jeans, albeit a dark wash, paired with a nice shirt.

Bring identification with you everywhere you go: bars and restaurants are required by law to ask anyone who looks under 40 for ID before serving them a drink. Moreover, the United States is not yet on the PIN system used by many European establishments, so be prepared to sign and show photo ID whenever you use a credit card.

It is illegal to smoke in all workplaces, stores, bars and restaurants, and in the seating areas at AT&T Stadium *(see p273)*. However, smoking is allowed in owner-operated bars where the owners have opted to allow it. Hotels must designate 35 percent of their rooms and 75 percent of the lobby as non-smoking zones, though many have adopted a complete non-smoking policy. Inquire about smoking policies when booking a room.

PUBLIC RESTROOMS

Public facilities in bus depots and underground BART stations *(see p298)* are often frequented by the city's homeless and drug users. The same holds true for the large, green, self-cleaning toilets that line Market Street. As an alternative, major hotels and department stores have facilities that are free and usually well maintained.

TAXES AND TIPPING

Sales tax in San Francisco is 9.5 percent, and it is charged on everything except take-out food. In restaurants, tip around 15 to 20 percent of the total bill. A useful trick to figure out the tip is to double the tax. Allow for an average tip of 15 percent for taxi drivers, bar staff, and hair stylists. Hotel and airport baggage handlers expect $1 to $1.50 per bag. Leave hotel chambermaids $1 to $2 for each day of your stay.

SS *Balclutha* at the Maritime Museum, closed on major public holidays

TOW AWAY
NO STOPPING
ANY TIME
8530

Muni bus, adapted for disabled travelers

TRAVELERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Most public transportation in the city is equipped for easy access. See the **Muni Access Guide** for details. Hotels usually have a few accessible rooms, and major entertainment venues have seats adapted for the disabled. Direction signs, toilets, and entrances are specially adapted for blind and disabled visitors, while some movie theaters offer special audio equipment for hearing-impaired patrons. Parking spaces reserved for the disabled are marked by a blue-and-white sign and a blue curb. A wheelchair outline is often painted on the sidewalk. Parking and public transportation are discounted for the disabled.

TRAVELING WITH CHILDREN

San Francisco is a family-friendly destination: many hotels offer "kids stay free" deals, and most restaurants have children's menus. Kids also enjoy discounts on tickets to sporting events, movies, and museums. Children under the age of 4 ride the city's public transportation system for free, and those between the ages of 5 and 17 ride for just 75 cents (the adult fare is $2). San Francisco also has many free parks and playgrounds; a full list can be found on the **City and County of San Francisco** website. More useful information and ideas are available on the **Travel For Kids** website.

SENIOR TRAVELERS

Senior travelers might struggle a bit with San Francisco's ubiquitous hills, but public transportation is extensive and reliable, and there are many senior-friendly attractions. Movie tickets, museum entry fees, and some sporting events are discounted for people aged 65 or older (ID must be shown). Transportation is also cheaper (75 cents instead of $2 for a standard return fare), and many restaurants offer senior discounts as well. For more information on senior travel, contact the **American Association of Retired People (AARP)**.

GAY AND LESBIAN TRAVELERS

San Francisco is arguably the most gay-friendly city in the world, and it is completely accepted for same-sex couples to show affection in public. San Francisco was one of the first US cities to legalize gay marriage; state legislation has since revoked that right, but a judicial battle to re-introduce it is ongoing. The annual Gay Pride Parade held on a Sunday at the end of June is one of the city's main attractions *(see p49)*. The Castro is the center of gay life in San Francisco, marked as such by a giant rainbow flag at the intersection of Market and Castro streets. Although all of the Bay Area is gay-friendly, there are a few hotels that cater specifically for a gay clientele; visit www.sfgay.org for a detailed directory.

TRAVELING ON A BUDGET

San Francisco is notoriously expensive, but that doesn't mean there aren't any deals to be found. In addition to the many inexpensive hostels, a local chain of nicely designed hotels, **Joie de Vivre**, offers several bargain-priced options. Visitors can also sign up for websites such as **BloomSpot**, **Groupon**, and **Living Social**, which send out daily emails with discounts on everything from restaurant dinners to spa services. The website **Goldstar** offers discounts on tickets to concerts, comedy shows, and other events.

Visitors with proof of student status receive discounts at many museums and theaters. The most widely accepted form of student ID is an International Student Identity Card (ISIC). Apply for one at your local student center, youth hostel organization, or student travel association prior to traveling.

Working vacations for foreign students may be arranged through **STA Travel**, which has two offices in the Bay Area.

INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT
IDENTITY CARD
ISIC
University of Economics
Penny Wise
10/10/1990
S 123 456 789 012 X

The International Student Identity Card, offering many benefits

WHAT TO TAKE

Despite its location in sunny California, San Francisco is not typically a warm city. Bring clothing appropriate for every season and be prepared to dress in layers, especially in the summer, when the city is at its foggiest. There are two main swimming beaches (Ocean Beach and Baker Beach), and many hotels have either indoor or heated outdoor pools, so packing a bathing suit is a good idea. Comfortable shoes are a must; not only is it often more practical to walk to a particular destination, but it is also the most enjoyable option *(see p293)*.

SAN FRANCISCO TIME

San Francisco is in the Pacific Time Zone. Daylight Saving Time (when clocks are set ahead 1 hour) begins on the second Sunday in March and ends on the first Sunday in November. San Francisco is 3 hours behind New York, 8 hours behind London, and 18 hours behind Sydney.

ELECTRICITY

Electric current in the US flows at a standard 110–120 volts AC (alternating current). Visitors from abroad will need a voltage converter and an adaptor plug. Some hotels hand out adaptors at the front desk, but it is also possible to purchase them at the airport. Special plugs for electric shavers carry either 110- or 220-volt current.

RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

San Francisco and the Bay Area are on the cutting edge of all things green in the US. The area boasts a number of eco-lodges and hotels, most of which are members of the **Green Hotel Association**. The organic food movement is huge in Northern California: a good number of restaurants will list which local farm their ingredients come from, and there are weekly farmers' markets throughout the area. One of the best is the **Ferry Building Market Place**, where local growers sell everything from fresh produce to delicious prepared foods.

Large tracts of open space in the city – including the Presidio, Golden Gate Park, Marin Headlands, and Muir Woods – have been set aside for preservation, and San Francisco also features several eco-friendly buildings, such as the California Academy of Sciences *(see pp150–51)*.

To find businesses that operate an environmentally sustainable policy, visit the website of the **Bay Area Green Business Program**.

Colorful vegetables stall at a farmers' market in San Francisco

DIRECTORY

FOREIGN CONSULATES

Australian Consulate General
515 Market St,
Suite 1800.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *536-1970.*

British Consulate General
1 Sansome St, Suite 850.
Map 6 D4.
Tel *617-1300.*

Canadian Consulate General
580 California St,
14th Floor.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *834-3180.*

Consulate General of Ireland
100 Pine St, 33rd Floor.
Map 6 D4.
Tel *392-4214.*

New Zealand Consulate General
1 Maritime Plaza.
Map 6 D3.
Tel *399-1255.*

TOURIST INFORMATION

San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau
900 Market St at Powell St, Lower Level of Hallidie Plaza. **Map** 5 B5.
Tel *391-2000.* **www**.onlyinsanfrancisco.com

Visit California
Tel *(877) 225-367.*
www.visitcalifornia.com

TRAVELERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Mayor's Office on Disability
Tel *554-6789 or 554-6799 (TTY).*
www.sfgov.org/mod

Muni Access Guide
949 Presidio Ave.
Map 3 C4. ***Tel*** *923-6142 (weekdays) or 673-MUNI.*
www.sfmta.com

TRAVELING WITH CHILDREN

City and County of San Francisco
www.sfgov.org/site/recpark_index.asp

Travel for Kids
www.travelforkids.com/Funtodo/California/San_Francisco/sanfrancisco.htm

SENIOR TRAVELERS

American Association of Retired People (AARP)
Tel *(888) 687-2277.*
www.aarp.org

GAY AND LESBIAN TRAVELERS

Gay and Lesbian Convention Visitors Bureau
Tel *437-3800.*
www.glcvb.org

TRAVELING ON A BUDGET

BloomSpot
www.bloomspot.com

Goldstar
www.goldstar.com

Groupon
www.groupon.com

Joie de Vivre
www.jdvhospitality.com

Living Social
http://livingsocial.com

STA Travel
267 University Ave,
Palo Alto.
Tel *(650) 322-4790.*
www.statravel.com

RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

Bay Area Green Business Program
www.greenbiz.ca.gov

California Farmers' Market Association
Tel *(1) (800) 806-3276.*
www.cafarmersmkts.com

Ferry Building Market Place
www.ferrybuildingmarketplace.com

Green Hotel Association
www.greenhotels.com

Personal Security and Health

San Francisco Police Department badge

San Francisco is one of the safest large cities in the US. Police officers patrol tourist areas regularly, and very few visitors are victims of any form of street crime. Community groups in areas such as the Civic Center, Tenderloin, Western Addition, and Mission District have also taken steps to improve their locale and image. During the late afternoon and after dark, however, it is advisable to take a taxi to and from these districts, since tourist sights often border sleazy theaters and vacant buildings. If you follow the guidelines below, set by the Police Department, and use common sense, your stay should be safe and pleasant.

POLICE

The San Francisco Police Department provides foot, horse, motorcycle, and car patrols day and night. All major events are overseen by the police, especially at night in the Tenderloin area. Police kiosks are located in Chinatown, Japantown, Union Square, the Mission District, and at Hallidie Plaza. Traffic and parking enforcement officers make their rounds on foot, in police cars, or in small three-wheeled vehicles. Airports, stores, hotels, and the transit system have their own uniformed and plainclothes security staff.

Police car

Fire engine

Ambulance

WHAT TO BE AWARE OF

Mild weather, a progressive population, and extensive social welfare programs draw many homeless people to San Francisco. Street people are mostly not dangerous, but some are mentally unstable or addicted to drugs, so treat them with caution. Do not advertise the fact that you are a visitor; plan your route in your hotel room and look at maps discreetly. Walk confidently even if you do not know where you are; if you look lost, you may be an easy target for crime. Be aware of your surroundings, and if an area appears unsafe, leave. If you need directions, ask only hotel, shop, or office staff, or police officers, and avoid talking to strangers on the street. Do not carry large amounts of cash or, better still, use traveler's checks *(see p284)*. Never display cash; money belts concealed under clothing are better than purses and wallets. If you must carry a purse, hold it securely under your arm, and keep your wallet in the inside front pocket of your pants or jacket. Carry some cash and credit cards in a concealed secondary wallet. Be alert in crowds, especially in stores, at bus stops, and on public transportation. Make copies of all your travel documents and carry them separately.

In your hotel, keep an eye on your luggage while you check in and out, and do not broadcast your name and room number. Do not leave cash or valuables in your room and keep your luggage locked. Most hotels offer an in-room safe for valuables, and many also have safety deposit boxes at the front desk. Keep an inventory of items that you deposit in the room safe or hotel safe. Learn how to double-lock your hotel room door, and use the door viewer before letting anyone in. Always verify the identity of room service and repair personnel with reception before you let them into your room, especially if you did not call for them. Report any suspicious activity, and keep the key with you until you check out.

If you have a car, lock it and keep the keys with you; always check the interior before you get in. Park in busy, well-lit areas, and remove all luggage and valuables, especially GPS systems.

IN AN EMERGENCY

For emergencies that require medical, police, or fire services, dial 911. The Blue Pages of the telephone book list hospital emergency rooms and city hospitals. These can be crowded but are less expensive than private hospitals, which are listed in the Yellow Pages.

Hotels may be able to arrange for a doctor or dentist to visit you in your room.

HOSPITALS AND PHARMACIES

If you do not have comprehensive medical insurance, a visit to a doctor, hospital, or clinic can be very expensive. Even with medical insurance you may find that you have to pay for the services in advance, then claim reimbursement from your insurance company. Many doctors, dentists, and hospitals accept credit cards, but traveler's checks and cash are sometimes the only form of payment allowed for visitors.

Walgreens pharmacy logo

For non-emergency medical care, a handful of walk-in clinics in San Francisco charge reasonable prices; these can be found in the "Personal Services" section of the San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau website *(see p281)*. There's even a clinic at San Francisco International Airport.

If you get a prescription from a doctor, ask that it be called into a pharmacy near your hotel. Some **Walgreens** drugstores stay open late or round the clock. If you take medication, it is a good idea to bring a back-up prescription with you.

LOST AND STOLEN PROPERTY

Although the chances of retrieving property lost on the street are remote, you can phone the **Police Non-Emergency Line**. The Muni transportation system and BART both have **Lost-and-Found** offices, as do many shops and restaurants.

Note the company name, driver name, color, and number of any taxi you take. If you lose an item, you will need this information when calling the relevant cab company to report your loss.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Medical care in the US is first-class but costly, making travel insurance essential for foreign visitors. Travelers should check that their coverage includes emergency medical and dental care, lost or stolen baggage and travel documents, accidental death, and trip-cancellation fees.

NATURAL DISASTERS

The Bay Area lies on several fault lines, a fact that has led to a few devastating earthquakes in the past. According to the US Geological Service (USGS), a damaging earthquake hits the Bay Area every four years on average. Since the 7.8 magnitude earthquake of 1906, the area has seen less activity because stresses on the fault lines were relieved. However, according to the USGS, those stresses are building up again, and there is a 62 percent chance of a magnitude 6.7 or larger quake hitting the area by 2032. The good news is that the area is fairly well prepared for earthquakes – by law, buildings have to be retrofitted to function well in a tremor. Although earthquakes can be scary, they typically last no longer than a few seconds. The best thing to do in the event of an earthquake is to crouch under a desk or brace yourself in a doorway.

DIRECTORY

EMERGENCY SERVICES

All Emergencies (Police, Fire, and Medical Services)
Tel *911.*

National Center for Victims of Crime
Tel *(1) (800) FYI-CALL.*

HOSPITALS

Saint Francis Memorial Hospital
900 Hyde Street.
Map 5 A4. ***Tel*** *353-6000.*
Visitors' Medical Services
Tel *353-6300 (24-hour emergency care).*
Tel *(1) (800) 333-1355 (24-hour physician referral service).*
www.saintfrancismemorial.org

San Francisco General Hospital
1001 Potrero Ave.
Map 11 A3.
Tel *206-8000.*

Traveler Medical Group
490 Post St, Suite 225.
Map 5 A5.
Tel *981-1102.*
www.travelermedicalgroup.net

PHARMACIES

Four-Fifty Sutter Pharmacy
450 Sutter St, 7th Floor.
Map 5 B4. ***Tel*** *392-4137.*
(Will deliver.)

Saint Francis Medical Center
901 Hyde St. **Map** 5 A4.
Tel *776-4650.*
(Will deliver.)

Walgreens
135 Powell St. **Map** 5 B5.
Tel *391-7222.*
498 Castro St.
Map 10 D3.
Tel *861-3136 (24 hours).*
3201 Divisadero St.
Map 3 C2.
Tel *931-6417 (24 hours).*

WALK-IN CLINICS

Physician Access Center
26 California St.
Map 6 D4.
Tel *397-2881.*

University of California San Francisco Clinic
400 Parnassus Ave.
Map 9 B2. ***Tel*** *353-2602.*

Wall Medical Group
2001 Union St. **Map** 4 E3.
Tel *447-6800.*

DENTAL SERVICES

Emergency Dentist 24/7
Tel *702-4543.*

San Francisco Dental Society Referral Service
Tel *421-1435.*

LOST AND STOLEN PROPERTY

Lost-and-Found (BART)
www.bart.gov/guide/lostandfound

Lost-and-Found (Muni)
Tel *923-6168.*

Police Non-Emergency Line
Tel *553-0123.*

Banking and Currency

San Francisco's Financial District *(see pp106–21)* is the banking center of the West Coast. The imposing corporate headquarters of major US banks and foreign branches of some of the world's leading financial institutions can be found in this prestigious area. For the convenience of residents and visitors alike, hundreds of cash machines (ATMs) throughout the city allow automatic transactions 24 hours a day.

BANKS AND BUREAUX DE CHANGE

Banks in San Francisco are generally open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. Some, however, open as early as 7:30am, close as late as 6pm, and are open on Saturday mornings. Always ask if any special fees apply before making your transaction. US-dollar traveler's checks can be cashed at most banks, provided you have a government-issued form of photographic identification.

Credit unions will serve only their members, so look for banks that offer services to the general public. **Bank of America** and **Wells Fargo** have headquarters in the city, and **Chase** has a major presence as well. You will see local branches of all three in the Financial District and in shopping areas.

Foreign currency exchange is available at the main branches of large banks, at bureaux de change throughout the Financial District, and at the area's international airports (SFO, Oakland, and San José; *see pp288–9*). Foreign currency exchange offices charge fees and commissions, and they are generally open on weekdays from 9am to 5pm. One of the best-known firms is **Thomas Cook Currency Services**. Bank of America operates a foreign-exchange service at San Francisco International Airport from 7am to 11pm daily.

ATMS

Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) can be found in most bank lobbies or on an outside wall near the bank's entrance. US currency, usually in $20 bills, can be electronically withdrawn from your bank or credit card account in seconds. ATM withdrawals may provide a better foreign currency exchange rate than cash transactions. Before you travel, ask your bank which ATM systems your card can access in San Francisco and how much each transaction will cost, as a conversion charge may apply. Popular systems include Cirrus, Plus, and Star, and they accept various US bank cards, in addition to MasterCard, VISA, and others. Although they are likely to be less secure, the small ATM kiosks at grocery stores, liquor stores, and on city streets sometimes handle foreign cards better. However, you may be charged around $2.50–3 to use them.

Be aware that robberies can occur at ATM machines, so use them only in daylight or when there are plenty of people nearby, and make sure that nobody can see your PIN as you type it in.

Be sure to notify your bank and credit card companies that you will be traveling. In some cases, access to funds can be cut off when banks see what seem to be suspicious charges.

A large branch of Chase bank in downtown San Francisco

WELLS FARGO ATM

Wells Fargo cash-dispensing machines (ATMs)

TRAVELER'S CHECKS AND CREDIT CARDS

Credit cards and traveler's checks are widely accepted in San Francisco, but be prepared to show photo ID when using them. Traveler's checks issued in US dollars by **American Express** and Thomas Cook are generally accepted without a fee by most shops, restaurants, and hotels. Foreign currency traveler's checks may be cashed at a bank or by the cashier at a major hotel.

The majority of credit cards offer merchandise guarantees or other benefits. American Express, **MasterCard**, and **VISA** are accepted at most establishments. In most instances you'll be asked to sign a slip; in a very few cases, retailers will print your credit card number on receipts, so be sure to check and black it out if necessary. Most hotels ask for a credit card imprint on check-in. Car rental agencies put a hold on renters' cards equal to a deposit of anywhere between $100 and $300, and they penalize patrons without credit cards by asking for large cash deposits. Most hospitals *(see p283)* will accept the credit cards listed above as payment for treatment.

Coins

Units of currency in the US are dollars and cents. There are 100 cents to a dollar. Coins come in $1, and 50-, 25-, 10-, 5-, and 1-cent pieces. Goldtone $1 coins and State quarters are also in circulation. Each coin has a popular name: 1-cent pieces are called pennies; 5-cent pieces, nickels; 10-cent pieces, dimes; and 25-cent pieces, quarters.

25-cent coin (a quarter)

10-cent coin (a dime)

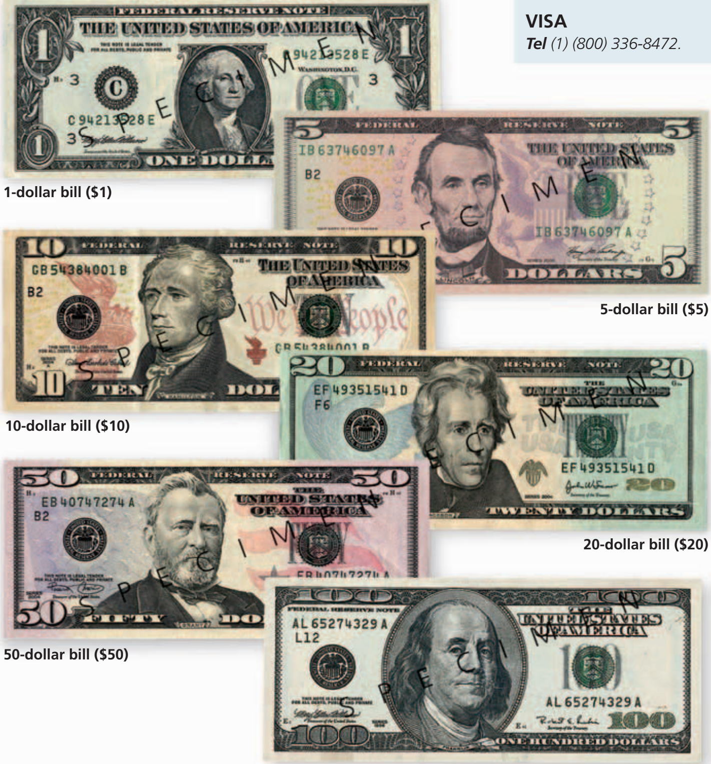
5-cent coin (a nickel)

1-cent coin (a penny)

1-dollar coin (a buck)

Bank Notes (Bills)

American bank notes come in $1, $5, $10, $20, $50, and $100 denominations. They are all the same color, but each features a different US President. The $20 and $50 bills in circulation have extra security features. Paper bills were first issued in 1862, when coins were in short supply and the Civil War needed financing.



1-dollar bill ($1)

5-dollar bill ($5)

10-dollar bill ($10)

20-dollar bill ($20)

50-dollar bill ($50)

100-dollar bill ($100)

DIRECTORY

BANKS AND BUREAUX DE CHANGE

Bank of America
2835 Geary St.
Map 3 B5.
Tel *(650) 615-4700.*

Chase
700 Market St.
Map 5 C5.
Tel *274-3500.*

Thomas Cook Currency Services
75 Geary St. **Map** 5 C5.
Tel *362-3452.*

Wells Fargo
464 California St.
Map 5 C4.
Tel *396-7392.*

TRAVELER'S CHECKS AND CREDIT CARDS

American Express
Tel *536-2600 or (1) (800) 528-4800.*

MasterCard
Tel *(1) (800) 627-8372.*

VISA
Tel *(1) (800) 336-8472.*

Communications and Media

United States Postal Service logo

The Bay Area is where the American tech boom was born, so it should come as no surprise that most places in San Francisco have wireless Internet access; indeed, many hotels and cafés offer it to customers free of charge. San Francisco is also a fairly international and cultural city, so it's relatively easy to find foreign publications, films, and television broadcasts. Coin-operated public pay phones are not as common as they once were, but they are still available at the airport and on some streets in downtown neighborhoods. Note that hotels set their own telephone rates, so calls from your room may be more expensive than those made from a pay phone or cell phone.

INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL TELEPHONE CALLS

Within the city limits of San Francisco, the standard charge of 50 cents buys 3 minutes' time. If you talk for longer than that, the operator may request additional payment. The area code for the city is 415. The prefixes 650 and 408 serve the southern suburbs; 510 is for Oakland, Berkeley, and the East Bay; and 707 is for Napa and Sonoma. These and other numbers called from San Francisco are long-distance. The prefixes 800, 877, and 888 indicate toll-free numbers.

All international calls can be dialed direct, but operators can help if your call is not going through. Their advice is free, but if they connect your call you will have to pay a surcharge. Long-distance direct-dial calls within the US are cheaper at night and weekends. The White Pages of the telephone book offer current rate and long-distance calling information in the "Customer Guide" section. The times of day when discounted rates apply for calls to foreign countries vary; the international operator will be able to advise you. Pre-paid international calling cards, available from most newsstands and convenience stores, as well as online, offer discounted rates on international calls.

PUBLIC TELEPHONES

Pay phones in San Francisco are slowly disappearing, but they can still be found at the airport, on major streets, and in some shopping centers. AT&T operates most of the pay phones in the city, which have a blue-and-white sign with a receiver and the word "phone" or a bell with a circle around it. Charges must be posted by law, as well as toll-free numbers, how to make calls using other long-distance service carriers, and the phone's exact location. To complain about service, call the operator (0).

Chinatown phone box

CELL PHONES

Triband or multiband cell phones from elsewhere in the world should work in the US, but your service provider may have to unlock international roaming. They can also advise on call costs.

The main US providers are **T-Mobile**, **Verizon**, **AT&T**, and **Sprint**. Except for Sprint, they all offer prepaid, pay-as-you-go phones with a "starter" SIM card (with 10–15 minutes' talk time) for $30 and up. Local and national calls are very cheap on these phones, but international calls are not, so it is wise to buy a calling card to use with your pay-as-you-go phone. Alternatively, look for a plan with international calling options. **Virgin Mobile** offers a flat-rate, $25-a-month, no-contract-service option with good international rates. You will also need a phone, but the company sells a basic one for $20. This is a good option if you are staying in the US longer than a week and plan on making frequent calls.

REACHING THE RIGHT NUMBER

- Long-distance direct-dial calls outside your local area code, but within the US and Canada: dial 1.
- International direct-dial calls: dial 011, followed by the country code (Australia: 61; New Zealand: 64; UK: 44), then the city or area code (omitting the first 0), and then the local number.
- International calls via the operator: dial 01, followed by the country code, and the city code (without the first 0), then the local number.
- National directory inquiries: dial 411. There may be a charge.
- International directory inquiries: dial 00.
- Local operator assistance: dial 0.
- International operator assistance: dial 01.
- An 800, 877, or 888 prefix indicates that the call is free. Dial 1 before the 800.
- Emergencies: dial 911.

INTERNET AND EMAIL

High-speed Internet (often wireless) is available throughout the city, including on many trains and in the underwater subway tunnel linking San Francisco to Oakland. Many cafés, such as **Ritual Roasters**, offer free Wi-Fi, although you are expected to purchase something before using it. Hotels are increasingly offering free Wi-Fi as well, either in the lobby or in all rooms. Those that charge for access bill $10–15 a day. It is rare to find an Internet café with computers, so take your laptop.

One of San Francisco's many cafés with Wi-Fi access

POSTAL SERVICES

Stamps can be purchased at post offices, hotel reception desks, and vending machines. Some ATMs also sell stamps; most banks charge a fee for this service, but so do most non-US Postal Service outlets. Check current postal rates at post offices or online, at the **US Postal Service** website.

Letters can be mailed in post offices, at your hotel, at the airport, and in mailboxes on the street. Collection times are printed on the inside of the mailbox's pull-down door.

All domestic mail is first class and will arrive within one to five days. Air mail to Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, and the UK takes five to ten business days. Packages sent overseas by surface rate may take four to six weeks. The federal post office offers a range of special services: Priority Mail promises delivery faster than first-class mail, while Global Priority arrives to most international destinations within five days. The more expensive Express Mail delivers next day within the US, and within two to three days to many international destinations. Express mail can also be arranged through private delivery companies such as **DHL**, **FedEx**, and **UPS**.

Correspondence sent to you c/o General Delivery, Civic Center, 101 Hyde Street, San Francisco, CA 94142 will be held for 30 days. Show photographic proof of identity on collection. The main **post offices** in San Francisco are marked on the Street Finder maps *(see pp302–11)*.

NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, AND WEBSITES

Foreign newspapers and magazines are for sale at several shops and newsstands, including **Galleria Newsstand** and **Café de la Presse**. The local newspaper is the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Two free weeklies – *SF Weekly* and *The Bay Guardian* – offer entertainment reviews and listings. *San Francisco Magazine* and *7 x 7* are glossy lifestyle magazines covering the cultural happenings in the city.

Useful websites for visitors include **Yelp**, which has user-generated reviews on everything from spas to restaurants and bars, and **The Bold Italic**, which lists things to do in the city, such as where to find the best coffee or the best brunch.

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Four TV networks operate in San Francisco: CBS is on channel 5 (KPIX), ABC on channel 7 (KGO), NBC on channel 11 (KNTV), and Fox on channel 2 (KTVU). The local PBS station, which offers cultural programs as well as some classic BBC shows, is on channel 9 (KQED). Cable offerings include CNN, ESPN, BBC America, and pay channels. Some pay channels, such as HBO and Showtime, are free in most hotels.

AM radio stations include KCBS (740 Hz; news), KOIT (1050 Hz; soft rock), and KNBR (680 Hz; sport). FM stations include KALW (91.7 FM; news), KLLC Alice (97.3 FM; pop), KBLX (102.9 FM; jazz), and KDFC (102.1 FM; classical).

DIRECTORY

USEFUL NUMBERS

Directory Inquiries Within the US
__Tel__ 411.

CELL PHONES

AT&T
www.att.com

Sprint
www.sprint.com

T-Mobile
www.t-mobile.com

Verizon
www.verizonwireless.com

Virgin Mobile
www.virginmobileusa.com

INTERNET AND EMAIL

Ritual Roasters
1026 Valencia St.
Map 10 F2.
__Tel__ 641-1024.
www.ritualcoffeeroasters.com
(One of several outlets.)

POSTAL SERVICES

DHL
__Tel__ (1) (800) 225-5345.

FedEx
__Tel__ (1) (800) 463-3339.

Post Office (General Mail Facility)
1300 Evans Ave.
__Tel__ 550-5134.
Open 7am–8:30pm Mon–Fri, 8am–2pm Sat.

UPS
__Tel__ (1) (800) 742-5877.

US Postal Service
__Tel__ (1) (800) 275-8777.
www.usps.com

NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, AND WEBSITES

The Bold Italic
http://thebolditalic.com

Café de la Presse
352 Grant Ave. **Map** 5 C4.
__Tel__ 398-2680.

Galleria Newsstand
50 Post St, Suite 44.
Map 5 C4.
__Tel__ 398-4847.

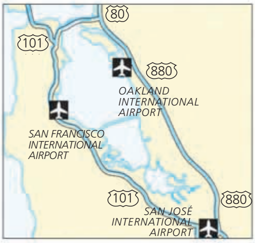
Yelp
www.yelp.com

GETTING TO SAN FRANCISCO

Several international airlines offer direct flights to San Francisco, and charter and domestic services are also numerous. Amtrak trains run from all parts of the US to nearby Oakland, and bus shuttles operate from this station into San Francisco. Long-distance luxury bus services offer a less frenetic and often cheaper way to travel for those arriving from other North American cities. Several cruise liners dock at Pier 35 on their way north to Alaska or south to the Mexican Riviera. Check with your travel agent or individual operators for the best deals. For visitors arriving by car or bus, there can be little to beat the views of the city and its surroundings when driving over the Golden Gate and Bay bridges.

SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL

Facade of San Francisco International Airport


80
101
880
OAKLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
101
880
SAN JOSÉ INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

AIRPORT LOCATIONS AROUND THE BAY AREA

ARRIVING BY AIR

San Francisco International Airport (SFO) is one of the busiest airports in the world. Not only is it one of the largest in the United States, but it is also one of the most user-friendly. The major carriers operating there include **Air Canada**, **American Airlines**, **British Airways**, **Delta**, **Northwest/KLM Airlines**, **Qantas**, **United Airlines**, **USAirways**, and **Virgin Atlantic**.

Other airports near the city include San José International Airport (SJC), which is about an hour away from San Francisco, and Oakland International Airport (OAK), which is 30 minutes away.

SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (SFO)

San Francisco International Airport is located south of the city, 14 miles (23 km) from the center of town. Its main runways are right next to San Francisco Bay. SFO is convenient for access to the Greater San Francisco and metro Bay areas and Silicon Valley, with international connections to and from the Pacific Rim, Europe, and Latin America. The arrival and departure gates are arranged around each of four terminals (1, 2, 3, and International). All international airlines are located in the state-of-the-art International Terminal. Note, however, that domestic flights on **Virgin America** and **JetBlue** airlines also depart from the International Terminal, while flights to and from Canada are located in domestic terminals 1, 2, and 3. Check the **Airport Information website** in advance to avoid confusion.

Walkways link all the terminals, which surround a short-term parking area. Long-term parking garages, a global communications center, a consolidated car-rental center, and the airport's Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) station *(see p298)* are connected to the terminals by a light-rail shuttle.

Visitors arriving at SFO will find customs, baggage claim, sightseeing information, car-rental booths, and ground transportation into the city on the lower level. The top level has services for those departing from San Francisco, including baggage handlers, ticket and insurance counters, restaurants, bars, shops, and security checkpoints. All car rental and parking shuttles, public buses, and door-to-door shuttle minibus services deliver (and pick up) their passengers at this level. The airport's 24-hour shuttle, which operates between terminals and long-term parking, picks passengers up on the center island near the ticket counters every 5 to 20 minutes.

Bank of America branches and currency exchange services are available from 7am to 11pm in all terminals, and there are Wells Fargo ATMs in all areas. Each terminal also has a range of newsstands, restaurants, and snack bars. Other services provided include

Escalators between levels in SFO's International Terminal baby-changing facilities, free wireless Internet, mailboxes, and postage-stamp vending machines. There is also a clinic for those with medical problems *(see p283)*.

Wheelchairs, TDD terminals for the hearing-impaired, and an airport shuttle service for the disabled are readily available. You can also use the white courtesy phones that allow you to contact all airport services and facilities free of charge.

Throughout the airport, a series of galleries display changing exhibits on a wide range of subjects. There is also a museum dedicated to the history of aviation in the International Terminal.

GETTING INTO THE CITY FROM SFO

Information booths on the lower level of the airport offer advice on ground transportation, fares, and boarding locations. Follow the arrows marked "Ground Transportation." Buses operated by **SuperShuttle** depart every 20 minutes from 5am to 11pm, serving three city center areas with drop-offs at major hotels. Other companies offer a door-to-door service, such as **Airport Express** and **American Airporter Shuttle**. These minibus shuttles and shared limousines will take you to a specific address. You share the cost of the trip with other passengers for an average of $17 to $35.

A SuperShuttle minibus service

The average fare for a metered cab ride into San Francisco is $45. This non-stop trip can take as little as 25 minutes or as long as 40 minutes or even longer during rush hour (7–9am and 4–7pm).

Travelers on a budget, with plenty of time (to allow for frequent stops), can hop on SFO's light-rail shuttle to the airport's BART station and take the subway to San Francisco, the East Bay, or the CalTrain depot. A one-way fare to downtown is $8.10.

The area in front of the terminal at Oakland International Airport

OTHER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

Most international flights arrive at SFO, but **Oakland International** and **San José International** airports are also viable options. Both offer good ground transportation into San Francisco by door-to-door bus shuttle and limousine. BART serves Oakland International in conjunction with a shuttle, getting people into the city within an hour.

Visitors flying into San José can take a **SamTrans** shuttle bus to the CalTrain station *(see p290)*, arriving in San Francisco in about 90 minutes. San José airport is expanding, and the city's transportation authority is working on connecting it to the light-rail system, a project that is due for completion in 2015.

The airy interior of San José International Airport

TICKETS AND FARES

Flights to San Francisco (and hotel rates) are most expensive in the summer. Fortunately, though, the city's best weather is in the fall, from September to the end of October, and flight prices are often a bit cheaper then. Late June is particularly expensive and crowded in San Francisco due to the annual Gay Pride Parade *(see p49)*. Websites such as **Priceline**, **Expedia**, and **Travelocity** often offer deals on airfares, and **Kayak** compares prices from all of these sites, as well as the airline sites, to deliver the best possible deal.

PACKAGE DEALS

By far the best value for visitors can be found by purchasing a package that includes airfare and hotel, and sometimes a rental car. Websites such as Expedia.com and Travelocity.com offer exclusive package deals that are not available through travel agents. However, be sure to check the hotel component, since it is not uncommon for sites to bundle a mediocre hotel into a package. Bear in mind that if you have booked a package through a third party, any changes or complaints will have to be handled by the booking party; you will not be able to make changes to your reservation directly. In addition to the travel sites, hotels also sometimes offer packages that include meals, a rental car, tourist activities, or spa services.

ARRIVING BY TRAIN

The national passenger rail network, **Amtrak**, links most major US cities. It also connects with bus, ferry, and air carriers and operates a joint service across the border with Rail Canada. All long-distance trains offer sleeping quarters and full refreshment facilities. Often there is a sightseeing lounge with large windows allowing good views of the passing landscape. Unfortunately, some of the trains are quite dated and long-distance routes are often delayed. However, if you have time, traveling by train is a great way to see parts of the country you would not otherwise experience.

Passengers are required to reserve seats in advance on many services. Advance booking is recommended for all travel during peak periods. Amtrak offers a varied program of special discounts and packages, including 15- and 30-day passes allowing unlimited travel within specified zones. Ask your travel agent for details.

Visitors traveling to San Francisco by train will arrive at Amtrak's station in Emeryville, to the north of Oakland. The station is in an industrial area, so most passengers continue to their final destination as soon as possible. Amtrak runs a free shuttle to the city center. The ride takes approximately 45 minutes, crosses the Bay Bridge, and terminates at the Ferry Building *(see p112)*. From here, you can then take ferries, buses, BART trains, and streetcars *(see pp294–5)* to other parts of the city.

Amtrak passengers arriving at San José can transfer via the **CalTrain** commuter rail system to San Francisco. A separate ticket ($7.75 one way) is required for this trip and can be purchased on the train. Most shuttle buses from Oakland also stop at San Francisco's CalTrain station, which is located on the corner of Fourth Street and Townsend Street.

Amtrak train on the tracks at Emeryville station, near Oakland

ARRIVING BY CAR

You will get a spectacular introduction to the city by driving over Golden Gate Bridge or Bay Bridge. Both are toll bridges, but the toll ($6 for Golden Gate Bridge and $4 for Bay Bridge) is charged only one way. If your route is from the north via US 101, the Golden Gate Bridge toll will be collected as you enter the city. There is no toll on the return crossing into Marin County. To get into the city center from Golden Gate Bridge, follow the US 101 signs to Lombard Street and Van Ness Avenue.

Approaching the city from the east via I-80 through Oakland, the Bay Bridge toll is again collected only on the approach to San Francisco. This bridge has two main sections *(see pp164–5)*, joining at Yerba Buena Island, and its highway runs alongside the skyscrapers of the Financial District. The first two exits take you to the city center. Arriving from the south via the peninsula, you can choose to follow either US 101 or 280 into the city. Both routes are well marked, and there are no tolls on the roads.

Driving in the States is on the right-hand side of the road. Red stop lights and stop signs are compulsory stops. More useful tips for driving in San Francisco can be found on page 300.

One-way toll system operating on Bay Bridge

ARRIVING BY LONG-DISTANCE BUS

Regular services operated by **Greyhound Bus Line** reach most parts of the United States. The buses are modern and clean, and include wireless Internet and electrical outlets. Ask at Greyhound ticket counters in bus stations or look online for special rates. The average 8-hour San Francisco–Los Angeles adult fare is $42 (one-way), and discounts are usually offered for online purchases, 14-day advance purchases, students, seniors, and children. International travelers can purchase tickets online and have them waiting at the Will Call counter of the appropriate bus station. If you are planning to make several stops along the way, or if you want to tour the country on an extended trip, there may be a package designed to suit your requirements.

Green Tortoise offers an inexpensive and sometimes adventurous way to travel by bus, but it is not for everyone. Facilities and stops are very limited, so passengers have to prepare and share meals among the group. On some routes, buses stop to let riders explore a national park or freshen up in a natural hot spring. The popular Coastal Crawler tour spends a week winding down the California coast from San Francisco to Los Angeles, with stops in Monterey, Big Sur, and Hearst Castle ($270 round trip). Other Green Tortoise routes include Los Angeles, Yosemite National Park, the Grand Canyon, Death Valley, and Seattle. Journeys are slow, so if you need to reach your destination at a precise time, it may be better to take the Greyhound or a train.

The Transbay Terminal at First and Mission streets in San Francisco is used by long-distance, regional, and local public transit bus lines, as well as a few sightseeing tour companies. It does attract petty criminals, so stay alert and watch your belongings.

Sailing under Golden Gate Bridge, an unforgettable experience

ARRIVING BY SEA

Sailing under Golden Gate Bridge into San Francisco Bay is a highlight of arriving at the port of San Francisco. Luxury cruise ships dock near Fisherman's Wharf at Pier 35. The city is the embarkation and debarkation point of many operators' Alaskan or Mexican Riviera cruises. Taxis and public transportation such as BART, buses, and Muni Metro streetcars are available at the dock; the city center is only a few minutes' ride away.

DIRECTORY

ARRIVING BY AIR

Air Canada
Tel *(888) 247-2262.*

American Airlines
Tel *(1) (800) 433-7300.*

British Airways
Tel *(1) (800) 247-9297.*

Delta
Tel *(1) (800) 221-1212.*

Northwest/ KLM Airlines
Tel *(1) (800) 225-2525.*

Qantas
Tel *(1) (800) 227-4500.*

United Airlines
Tel *(1) (800) 241-6522.*

USAirways
Tel *(1) (800) 428-4322.*

Virgin Atlantic
Tel *(1) (800) 862-8621.*

SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (SFO)

Airport Information
Tel *(650) 821-8211 or (1) (800) 435-9736.*
http://flysfo.com

Airport Paging
Tel *(650) 821-8211 (press number 2) or (1) (800) 435-9736.*

Airport Police
Tel *(650) 821-7111.*

Info Service
Tel *(650) 821-HELP.*

JetBlue
Tel *(1) (800) 538-2583.*

Parking Garage
Tel *(650) 821-7900.*

Traveler's Aid
Tel *(650) 821-2730.*

Virgin America
Tel *(877) 359-8474.*

OTHER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

Oakland Airport Information
Tel *(510) 577-4000.*
www.flyoakland.com

San José Airport Information
Tel *(408) 277-4759.*
www.sjc.org

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION

Airport Express
Tel *775-5121.*

American Airporter Shuttle
Tel *202-0733. (Reservations recommended.)*

BayPorter Express
Tel *467-1800. (Scheduled service between SFO and Oakland airports.)*

SamTrans
Tel *(1) (800) 660-4287.*
www.samtrans.com

SuperShuttle
Tel *558-8500.*
www.supershuttle.com

TICKETS AND FARES

www.expedia.com
www.kayak.com
www.priceline.com
www.travelocity.com

ARRIVING BY TRAIN

Amtrak
Tel *(1) (800) 872-7245.*
www.amtrak.com

CalTrain
Tel *(1) (800) 660-4287.*
www.caltrain.com

ARRIVING BY LONG-DISTANCE BUS

Green Tortoise
Tel *956-7500.*
www.greentortoise.com

Greyhound Bus Line
Tel *(1) (800) 231-2222.*
www.greyhound.com

ARRIVING BY SEA

Port of San Francisco
Pier 1,
The Embarcadero.
Tel *274-0400.*
www.sfgov.org

GETTING AROUND SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco occupies a fairly compact area, and many of its most famous sights are only a short walk from one another. The public transportation system is very efficient and easy to use. Bus routes crisscross the city and pass by many attractions. Muni Metro streetcars and BART lines serve downtown neighborhoods, as well as the suburbs and outlying areas. Most visitors make time to ride on one of the city's famous cable cars. Taxis can be hard to find, particularly outside the major tourist areas. Passenger ferries and boats run regular trips east and north across San Francisco Bay.

The pedicab, popular transportation in good weather

San Francisco's fleet of Green Cabs, using hybrid or electric cars

GREEN TRAVEL

As well as boasting a reliable, clean, and safe public transportation system, San Francisco is easily explored on foot. There are also many cycle paths. The Bay Area has more hybrid cars than any other region in the US. Half of the city's taxi fleet consists of "green" cabs that are either hybrid or electric vehicles, or run on biofuel. Streetcars run down Market Street all the way to the waterfront. They are all electric, as are the buses – hence the maze of power lines throughout the city.

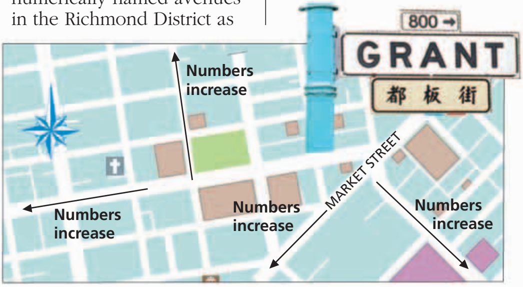
PLANNING YOUR JOURNEY

The public transit system is best avoided at rush hour (7–9am and 4–7pm Mon–Fri). Ask your hotel concierge for directions or use the Trip Planner on the **511** website. There are several ticket options. Single tickets can be bought for most services. A Muni Passport *(see p294)* gives unlimited rides for one, three or seven days on light-rail cars, streetcars, buses, and cable cars. The electronic pre-pay Clipper card is accepted on Muni and BART. It deducts the exact fare each time you use it. Contact the **Transport Agency** for more information.

STREET LAYOUT AND NUMBERING

Most of San Francisco's streets are based on a grid system. Market Street crosses the city from southwest to northeast, creating the northern and southern sections. With few exceptions, each block is designated a number by hundreds, starting at zero. So, the first block from Market Street has addresses between 1 and 99; the second block has addresses between 100 and 199; and so on. House numbers on east–west streets increase as they move west from San Francisco Bay. Numbers on north–south streets increase going north of Market Street, but also as they move south of Market Street. When asking for an address, make sure you also get the name of the nearest cross street and the neighborhood of your destination.

Local residents refer to the numerically named avenues in the Richmond District as "The Avenues." Numerically named streets begin on the south side of Market Street, in the city center, and end in the Mission District. The Street Finder *(see pp302–11)* provides a comprehensive map with details of the city.



Street numbering increases north and south of Market Street and west from San Francisco Bay

WALKING IN SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco is easy to explore on foot. The main tourist areas are all within 15 to 20 minutes of one another, and although the hills, particularly Nob Hill *(see pp101–3)* and Telegraph Hill *(see pp90–93)*, can be a struggle, the views from the top make them well worth the strenuous climb.

At traffic lights, electronic signs for pedestrians show an illuminated white human figure when it is okay to go; a countdown in flashing red lights tells you how long you have to cross before the light changes to the red hand "Don't Walk" signal. Jaywalking (crossing in the middle of a block, or using a crosswalk when the "Don't Walk" signal is showing) can result in a minimum $50 fine.

Vehicles are driven on the right-hand side of the road in the US. Always look both ways before you cross. Take care at traffic lights – vehicles are allowed to turn right on a red light if the way is clear.

MOTORCYCLES AND MOPEDS

A helmet, a valid US or international motorcycle license, a deposit, and prior riding experience are required when hiring motorcycles or mopeds. Parking for these vehicles is either deeply discounted or free, but they are not allowed on the highways or bridges.

CYCLING

Cycling is very popular in San Francisco. There are bicycle lanes in many parts of the city and the Bay Area, and all buses are equipped to carry bikes strapped to the outside. Bikes can also be taken on the light-rail Muni cars and on BART, although they are not allowed at rush hour (7–9am and 4–6pm Mon–Fri). There are two marked scenic bicycle routes. One goes from Golden Gate Park *(see pp142–57)* south to Lake Merced; the other starts at the southern end of Golden Gate Bridge *(see pp64–7)* and crosses to Marin County in the north. Bicycles, equipment, repairs, and tours are available from **Bay City Bike** and **Blazing Saddles**. They also rent bikes for around $32 a day or $220 a week.

A GoCar with GPS

TOURS AND OTHER WAYS TO GET AROUND

The city offers a wide range of guided and self-guided tours. **GoCar Tours** rents out small vehicles equipped with recorded GPS tours of the city, while **Cable Car Charters** runs guided tours on motorized cable cars. Visitors can go on half- or full-day **bus tours** and themed **walking tours**, or take a **Segway tour** or a **helicopter tour**. Those wishing to get away from the city can take the **Wine Country Tour Shuttle** out to Napa Valley. Pedicabs and horse-drawn carriages can be found near Fisherman's Wharf *(see pp80–81)*.

DIRECTORY

GREEN TRAVEL

Green Cab
Tel *626-GREEN.*

PLANNING YOUR JOURNEY

511
Tel *511.*
www.511.org

Transport Agency
www.sfmta.com

MOTORCYCLE AND MOPED RENTAL

Eagle Rider Rentals
488 8th St.
Map 11 A2.
Tel *503-1900.*

BICYCLE RENTAL

Bay City Bike
2661 Taylor Street,
at Fisherman's Wharf.
Map 5 A1.
Tel *346-2453.*

Blazing Saddles
1095 Columbus Ave.
Map 5 A2. ***Tel*** *202-8888.*
Pier 41. **Map** 5 B1.
Tel *202-8888.*
(Two of several branches.)

City Bike Hotline
Tel *585-2453.*

TOURS

Bus Tours:
Gray Line of San Francisco
Pier 43½. **Map** 5 B1.
Also at: Transbay Terminal.
Map 6 D4. ***Tel*** *558-9400.*
www.sanfranciscosightseeing.com

Mr. Toad's Tours
Fisherman's Wharf, 2698 Mason Street. **Map** 5 A1.
Tel *(877) 467-8623.*

Cable Car Charters:
Tel *922-2425.*
www.cablecarcharters.com

GoCar Tours:
Tel *441-5695.*
www.gocartours.com

Helicopter Tours:
San Francisco Helicopter Tours
Tel *(1) (800) 400-2404.*
www.sfhelicopters.com

San Francisco Vista Tour
Tel *(1) (800) 410-8233.*

Horse and Carriage Tours: Hackney Horse & Carriage
Pier 41.
Tel *(408) 535-0277.*

Segway Tours:
City Segway Tours
Tel *409-0672.* **www**.citysegwaytours.com

Walking Tours:
All About Chinatown Tours
660 California St. **Map** 5 C4. ***Tel*** *982-8839.* **www**.allaboutchinatown.com

Cruisin' the Castro Tours
375 Lexington St.
Map 10 F3.
Tel *255-1821.*
www.webcastro.com/castrotour

Heritage Walks
2007 Franklin St.
Map 4 E3.
Tel *441-3000.*
www.sfheritage.org

San Francisco Parks Trust
McLaren Lodge,
Golden Gate Park.
Map 9 B1.
Tel *750-5105.*
www.sfpt.org

Wine Tours:
Wine Country Tour Shuttle
Tel *513-5400.*
www.winecountrytourshuttle.com

Traveling by Bus and Muni Metro Streetcar

San Francisco Municipal Railway, or Muni as it is commonly called, is the organization that runs the city's public transportation system. You can use one interchangeable pass – Muni Passport – to travel on Muni buses, Muni Metro streetcars (electric trams), and the cable car lines, which are mainly used by tourists *(see pp296-7)*. Buses and streetcars serve most tourist attractions and all neighborhoods. Using the bus and streetcar map on the inside back cover, and a Muni Passport, you can ride the city's public transportation all day at a fraction of the cost of car rentals and parking fees.

FARES AND TICKETS

Buses and streetcars both cost $2 per ride. When paying your fare, you can request a free transfer, which will allow you to change to another bus or streetcar without paying an additional fare. The transfer is valid for 90 minutes.

If you are planning to make a number of trips by Muni, a Muni Passport, valid for one, three, or seven days, allows unlimited travel on buses, streetcars, and cable cars ($13–26). Muni Passports are available at many stores and information kiosks throughout the city, including the kiosk at SFO, and at the **Visitor Information Center**.

The Clipper card is a convenient payment option, and is accepted on all Muni services. This electronic prepay card can be bought on the **SFMTA** website, as well as at Muni metro stations. Hold it against the reader at station gates or when boarding a vehicle and the exact fare is automatically deducted.

USING BUSES

Buses stop only at designated bus stops, every two or three blocks. On boarding, put the exact change in the fare box, or show your Muni Passport to the driver. Ask your driver to let you know when you are near your destination, and watch the sign above the driver's head, which will flash the name of the next stop. Senior citizens and disabled passengers have priority at the front of the bus, so be prepared to give up your seat.

Route numbers are displayed on the front and side of the bus

Smoking, drinking, eating, and playing music are prohibited on buses. Guide dogs for the blind can ride for free at any time; other animals may be allowed at certain times of day, at the driver's discretion.

To indicate that you want to get off at the next stop, pull the cord that runs along the windows. A "Stop Requested" sign will light up. Instructions about how to open the doors are posted near the exit. Look carefully for oncoming traffic when alighting from the bus, especially at those stops that are located at islands in the middle of the street.

The route number and name of the destination are shown on the front and side of every bus, near the front door. Route numbers that are followed by a letter (L, X, AX, BX, etc.) are either express services or make limited stops. Ask the driver if you are not sure where the bus stops. Some lines offer a Night Owl Service (midnight–6am), but taxis *(see p301)* are often the safest means of getting around after dark.

BUS STOPS

Bus stops are indicated by signs displaying the Muni logo or by yellow bands on poles. Route numbers of buses that stop there are listed below the sign and on the exterior wall of the shelter. Most bus shelters now have digital signs showing which routes are running and when the next bus will arrive. Route maps and service frequency guides are posted inside most bus shelters.

USING STREETCARS

Streetcars operate both above and below ground. Streetcar lines J (Church), K (Ingleside), L (Taraval), M (Ocean View), N (Judah), and T (Third) all share the same tracks, which run beneath Market Street. So if you intend to catch a streetcar at a Market Street station, it is a good idea to check the letter and name of the one you are about to board to avoid taking the wrong line.

Along Market Street, four of the seven underground stations are shared by both

Muni bus shelter, with glass walls and a digital timetable

A Muni Metro streetcar, with its distinctive silver-and-red cars

Muni Metro streetcars and BART *(see p298)*. Entrances to Muni and BART at clearly signposted throughout. In the station, look for the separate "Muni" entrance.

Pay, use your Clipper card or show a Muni Passport, then proceed downstairs to the platform. To go west, choose "Outbound," to go east, choose "Downtown." Electronic signs show which streetcar is about to arrive.

Doors open automatically to allow passengers to enter. In the event they don't open at a street-level or low-level platform stop, push on the low bar beside the exit.

Stops above ground are indicated by an orange-and-brown metal flag, or by a yellow band around a pole, marked "Muni" or "Car Stop."

Lines J, K, L, M, N, and T all use Breda cars, which have a distinctive silver-and-red look.

DIRECTORY

MUNI INFORMATION

***Tel** 673-6864; TTY: 923-6373.*
www.sfmta.com

MUNI PASSPORTS

San Francisco Visitor Information Center
Lower level, Hallidie Plaza,
Market and Powell Sts.
Map 5 B5. ***Tel** 391-2000.*
www.onlyinsanfrancisco.com

Powell Street Kiosk
Hallidie Plaza, Market and Powell Sts. **Map** 5 B5.

The F line streetcar runs only along Market Street, with vintage streetcars from all over the world. Streetcars are also known as Light Rail Vehicles (LRVs).

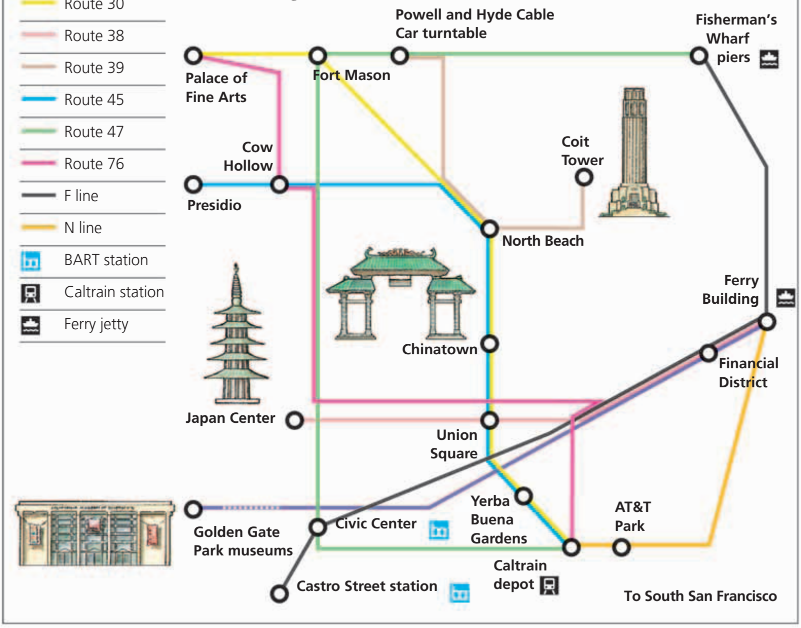
SIGHTSEEING BY BUS AND STREETCAR

Popular routes are outlined on the map below. Historic streetcars run on the F line along Market Street to the Wharves. The N line streetcar runs above ground from the Ferry Building to Caltrain depot. More information is available from Muni or the city's Convention and Visitors Bureau. For more bus and streetcar routes, see the map on the inside back cover of this guide.

F line streetcar approaching the Ferry Building

KEY

- Route 21
- Route 30
- Route 38
- Route 39
- Route 45
- Route 47
- Route 76
- F line
- N line
- BART station
- Caltrain station
- Ferry jetty


Powell and Hyde Cable Car turntable
Fisherman's Wharf piers
Palace of Fine Arts
Fort Mason
Cow Hollow
Coit Tower
Presidio
North Beach
Ferry Building
Chinatown
Financial District
Japan Center
Union Square
Yerba Buena Gardens
AT&T Park
Golden Gate Park museums
Civic Center
Caltrain depot
Castro Street station
To South San Francisco

Traveling by Cable Car

Cable car signal box

As the only "moving national monument" in the United States, San Francisco's cable cars are world famous *(see pp104–5)* and every visitor will want to ride one at least once. The cable car service runs from 6:30am to 12:30am daily. There is a flat fare of $5 for each journey, with a discount for seniors and the disabled after 9pm and before 7am. Although this is a great way to experience the city, buses and streetcars *(see pp294–5)* are often a more practical option.

USING THE CABLE CARS

Cable cars run along three routes. The Powell–Hyde line is the most popular. Starting at the Powell and Market turntable *(see p117)*, it skirts Union Square and climbs Nob Hill providing good views of Chinatown. It continues past the Cable Car Museum *(see p103)*, crosses Lombard Street *(see p88)* then descends Hyde Street to the turntable near Aquatic Park *(see p172)*. The Powell–Mason line also begins at Powell and Market streets and follows the same route to the Cable Car Barn. From there, it passes by North Beach and ends at Bay Street *(see p103)*. Sit facing east on the Powell lines and on your journey you will see some of the city's best-known sights. The California line runs from the base of Market Street, at the Embarcadero, along California Street. It passes through part of the Financial District and Chinatown. At Nob Hill the Powell lines cross the California line, so passengers can transfer between lines. If you have a one-way ticket you will need to purchase another, but those with a Muni Passport have an unlimited number of cable car rides. The California line then continues over Nob Hill, ending at Van Ness Avenue. For each of the three lines, the return trip follows the outward route, so riders are able to catch views from the other side of the car.

Commuters like to use cable cars too, so avoid traveling during rush hours if possible (7–9am and 4–7pm Mon–Fri). Whatever time you travel though, you are much more likely to get a seat if you board the cable car at the end of the line you have chosen.

TICKETS

If you have not already purchased a Muni Passport *(see p294)*, you can buy a ticket or a one-day pass ($13) from the conductor. Tickets are collected once you board. Muni passes, souvenir tickets, and maps are available at kiosks at Powell and Market streets and at Hyde and Beach streets, or at the city Visitor Information Center *(see p294)*.

CABLE CAR STOPS

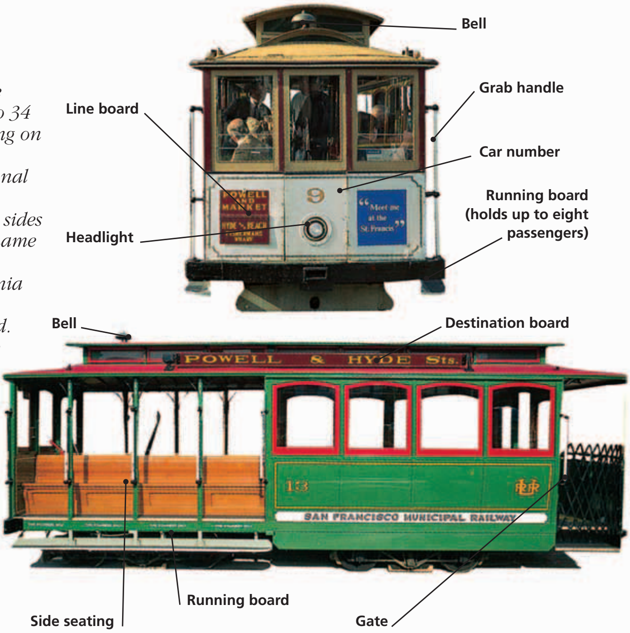
To catch a cable car you can line up at either end of a line or wait at a stop. Stand on the sidewalk and wave to alert

RECOGNIZING YOUR CABLE CAR

Currently 40 cable cars operate on the city's three lines. Each car seats 29 to 34 passengers and, depending on the type of car, can accommodate an additional 20 to 40 people standing.

On the front, back and sides of every cable car is the name of the line: Powell–Hyde, Powell–Mason or California Street. The number of the cable car is also displayed. California Street cars are easy to identify because they have a driver's cab at both ends. Cars on the two Powell lines have only one cab.

The conductor and gripman are generally friendly and helpful, so ask one of them if you are not sure which line to take to reach your destination.

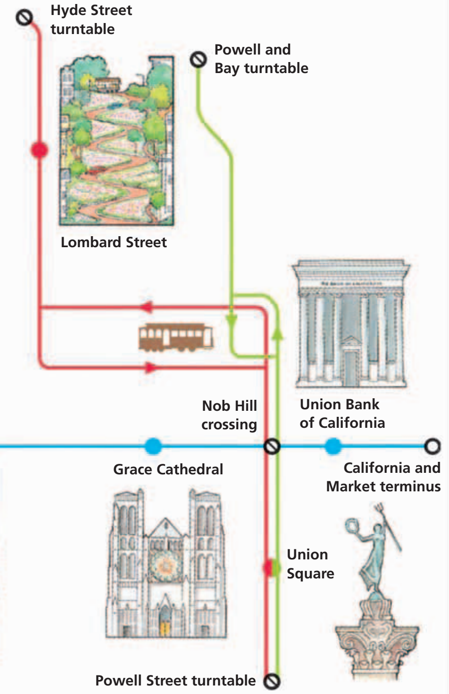


SIGHTSEEING BY CABLE CAR

The city's hills present no problem to cable cars. They tackle precipitous slopes effortlessly, passing sights and areas popular with tourists. The most thrilling descent is the final stretch of the Powell–Hyde line.

KEY

- 🟦 California line
- 🟥 Powell–Hyde line
- 🟩 Powell–Mason line
- ⦸ Turntable/crossing
- ○ Terminus
- Cable Car Barn


Hyde Street turntable
Powell and Bay turntable
Lombard Street
Nob Hill crossing
Union Bank of California
California and Van Ness terminus
Grace Cathedral
California and Market terminus
Union Square
Powell Street turntable

All cable car lines cross at Nob Hill

the gripman. Do not board until the car has come to a complete stop and be prepared to jump on quickly. Stops are marked by maroon signs that display the outline of a cable car in white, or by a yellow line painted on the road. On weekends, the stops at Powell and Market, and at Fisherman's Wharf, are typically very crowded – be prepared to wait at least 30 minutes.

Passengers riding on a cable car's running board

TRAVELING SAFELY IN A CABLE CAR

If there is not a crowd, you can choose whether to sit or stand inside, sit outside on a bench or stand on an end. More adventurous passengers may prefer to hang onto a pole while standing on a side running board.

Wherever you find a place, be sure to hold on tight. Do not to get in the way of the gripman; he needs a lot of room to operate the grip lever. This off-limits area is marked by yellow lines on the floor.

Use caution while on board. Passing other cable cars is exciting, but be extremely careful not to lean out too far because they get very close to one another.

Be vigilant when boarding or getting off a car. Often cable cars stop at an intersection so that you have to get on or off between the car and other vehicles, and this can be dangerous. All passengers must get off at the end of the line. If you wish to make a return trip, you must wait for the car to be turned around on the turntable, or switched to the return line, before boarding again.

DIRECTORY

USEFUL NUMBERS

Cable Car Barn
1201 Mason St. **Map** 5 B3.
Museum ***Tel*** *(415) 474-1887.*

Muni Information
Tel *673-6864.*
www.sfmta.com. Cable car information, fares, Muni Passports.

Traveling by BART

The San Francisco Peninsula and the East Bay are linked by BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit). This is a 103-mile (165-km) rapid transit system with a fleet of high-speed, wheelchair-accessible trains. BART is an easy and efficient way of getting to both Bay airports.

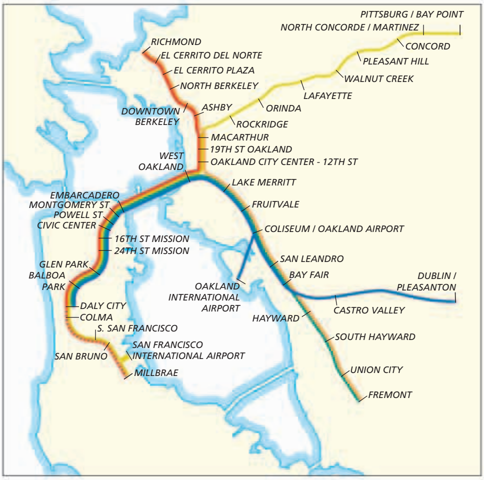
The BART logo

TAKING A TRIP BY BART

1 BART trains run 4am–midnight Mon–Fri, 6am–midnight Sat, 8am–midnight Sun. BART stops at four stations beneath Market Street – Civic Center, Powell, Montgomery, and Embarcadero. All trains from Daly City stop at city center stations before heading for the East Bay through a 4-mile (6-km) underwater tunnel. Transfers in the East Bay are possible only at two stations: MacArthur and Oakland City Center – 12th Street.

KEY

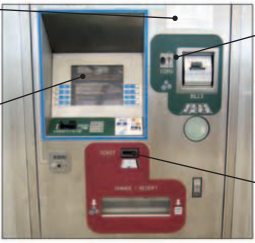
- Richmond–Daly City/Millbrae
- Milbrae–Bay Point
- Fremont–Daly City
- Fremont–Richmond
- Pleasanton–Daly City


PITTSBURG / BAY POINT
NORTH CONCORDE / MARTINEZ
CONCORD
PLEASANT HILL
WALNUT CREEK
LAFAYETTE
ORINDA
ROCKRIDGE
RICHMOND
EL CERRITO DEL NORTE
EL CERRITO PLAZA
NORTH BERKELEY
DOWNTOWN BERKELEY
ASHBY
MACARTHUR
19TH ST OAKLAND
OAKLAND CITY CENTER - 12TH ST
WEST OAKLAND
LAKE MERRITT
EMBARCADERO
MONTGOMERY ST
POWELL ST
CIVIC CENTER
FRUITVALE
COLISEUM / OAKLAND AIRPORT
16TH ST MISSION
24TH ST MISSION
SAN LEANDRO
BAY FAIR
GLEN PARK
BALBOA PARK
OAKLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
DUBLIN / PLEASANTON
CASTRO VALLEY
DALY CITY
COLMA
HAYWARD
S. SAN FRANCISCO
SOUTH HAYWARD
SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
SAN BRUNO
MILLBRAE
UNION CITY
FREMONT

2 BART tickets are issued by machines. Rates are posted near the machines inside BART stations. Clipper cards *(see p294)* are also valid on BART services.

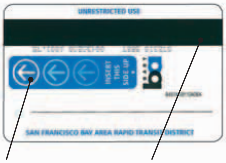
4 The value inserted is shown here. To buy a round-trip ticket, insert twice the amount for a one-way fare.

5 Tickets *(below)* are magnetically coded with the value, which is then printed on the ticket.



3 Insert coins or bills here. Machines will accept coins and notes, and most will also take debit/credit cards. The machines can give up to $10 in change.

6 Your ticket is issued here. Each person traveling should have his or her own ticket, or Clipper card.


UNRESTRICTED USE
INSERT THIS SIDE UP
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

Insert ticket into barrier this way

Magnetic strip

7 To gain access to the platforms, you must run your ticket through a turnstile or use your Clipper card. The fare for your trip is automatically deducted from the ticket/card value. Before you leave the station, you must re-insert your ticket in the turnstile. If any value remains, your ticket will be returned as the turnstile opens.

8 All trains display their final destination – westbound to San Francisco/Daly City, for example; or eastbound to Oakland, Richmond, Bay Point, or Fremont. Train doors open automatically. Platforms are marked with the end of the line in the direction in which the train is traveling.

9 BART stations have personnel on hand to answer questions and assist passengers with the machines. For further information, visit www.bart.gov or telephone 989-BART (989-2278).

Ferries and Bay Trips

Logo of the Red and White Fleet

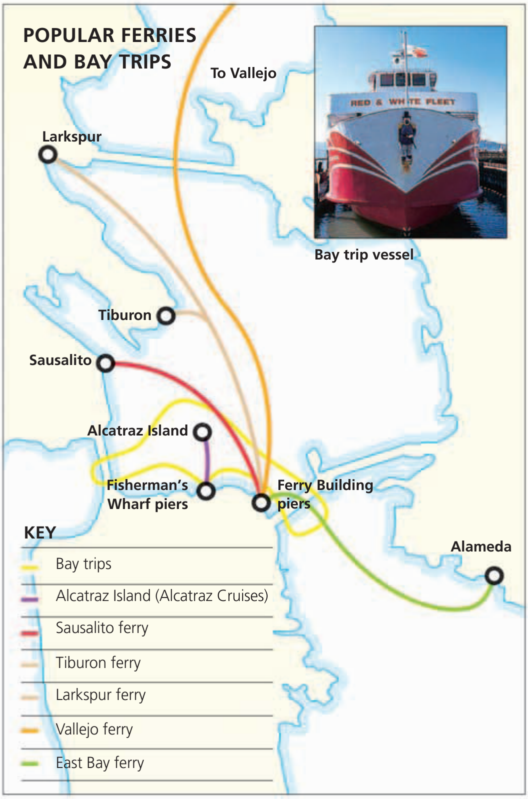
Before the construction of the Golden Gate and Bay bridges, ferries would shuttle from shore to shore, carrying people and goods to and from the northern counties and East Bay. Although no longer a necessity, boats and ferries are still a favorite way to get around. San Francisco Bay includes the cities of San Francisco and Oakland *(see pp164–7)*, as well as the smaller towns of Tiburon and Sausalito *(see p161)*.

FERRY SERVICES

Bay Area residents adore their ferries. During the week, commuters use them to avoid traffic on the bridges, and at weekends suburban families leave their cars behind and hop on for jaunts to the city.

Ferries do not have audio tours to identify the sights along the coastline, but they are less expensive than sightseeing cruises (the trip from San Francisco to Sausalito is $7.85 each way). Food and drinks are available on board. Note that ferries carry only foot passengers and bicycles, not motor vehicles.

Golden Gate Ferry services depart from the Ferry Building, on the Embarcadero, which is a destination in its own right *(see p112)*, housing food shops, a weekly farmers' market, and several restaurants. The **Blue and Gold Fleet** docks at nearby Fisherman's Wharf *(see pp80–81)*.



Bay trip vessel

BAY TRIPS

Bay sightseeing cruises from Fisherman's Wharf are operated by Blue and Gold Fleet and **Red and White Fleet**. Destinations include Angel Island and towns on the north shore of the Bay *(see pp160–61)*. There are also combined boat and bus tours to visit San Francisco and Muir Woods *(see p160)*. Tours cost $45–100.

Many Bay trips pass near Alcatraz *(see pp84–7)*, but only **Alcatraz Cruises** sells tickets and tours to The Rock.

Hornblower Dining Yachts offers lunch on Friday, brunch on weekends, and dinner daily on its charter cruises (from $70). **Oceanic Society Expeditions** arranges nautical environmental safaris with an onboard naturalist to the Farallon Islands, 25 miles (40 km) offshore. These safaris often spot whales on the way to the islands from March through May. There are also whale-watching expeditions off San Francisco's west coast (from $100 per person, *see p272*).

Check with individual operators for schedules and seasonal variations.

DIRECTORY

FERRIES

Blue and Gold Fleet
Pier 39, 41. **Map** 5 B1.
Tel *705-8200.*
www.blueandgoldfleet.com

Golden Gate Ferry
Tel *455-2000.*
www.goldengateferry.com

BAY TRIPS

Alcatraz Cruises
Pier 33. **Map** 5 C1. ***Tel*** *981-7625.*
www.alcatrazcruises.com

Hornblower Dining Yachts
Pier 3. **Map** 6 D3. ***Tel*** *438-8300.*
www.hornblower.com

Oceanic Society Expeditions
Tel *441-1106.*
www.oceanicsociety.org

Red and White Fleet
Pier 43½. **Map** 5 B1. ***Tel*** *673-*

Driving in San Francisco

PREVENT
RUNAWAYS
CURB WHEELS
PARK IN GEAR
SET BRAKE

Parking information sign

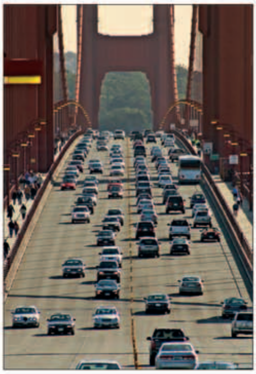
Congestion, a shortage of parking areas (and their high prices), and strictly enforced parking laws discourage many visitors from driving in San Francisco. Speed limits vary, but the maximum is 35 mph (56 km/h) within the city. Many streets are one-way, with traffic lights at most corners in the city center.

CAR RENTAL

You must be at least 25 years old with a valid driving license (a US or International Driver's License is best) to rent a car. All agencies require a major credit card or a large cash deposit. Damage and liability insurance is recommended. Always return the car with a full tank of gas to avoid the inflated gas prices charged by the rental agency. Many agencies now offer the option of pre-paying for a tank of gas at lower-than-average gas prices, which is well worth doing if you know you'll use at least a tank of gas. It is less expensive to rent a car at the airport: rental taxes are $2 a day more in the city.

TRAFFIC SIGNS

Colorful signs and symbols point the way to the main tourist areas, such as Chinatown (a lantern); Fisherman's Wharf (a crab); North Beach (outline of Italy). “Stop” and “Do Not Enter” signs are red and white. “Caution” and “Yield” signs are yellow and black. “One Way” signs are black and white. If there is no oncoming traffic, drivers may turn right at a red light. Otherwise, red lights mean stop and amber lights mean proceed with caution.



Driving across the city's landmark, the Golden Gate Bridge *(see pp64–7)*

PARKING

Parking meters operate 8am to 6pm Monday to Saturday, except on national holidays, when parking is free. Most meters have short time limits, usually of 1 hour. City center parking garages cost $15 to $30 a day, and most accept cash or credit cards.

Curbs are color coded: red means stopping is prohibited; yellow is loading zones; green allows 10 minutes' parking, while white permits 5 minutes during business hours. Blue curbs are reserved for the disabled. Some parking spaces are tow-away zones: check signs for information. By law you must curb your wheels when parking on steep hills. Turn wheels into the road when facing uphill and toward the curb when facing downhill.

PENALTIES

If you park your car at an out-of-order meter, expect to get a parking ticket. Blocking bus stops, fire hydrants, driveways, garages, and wheelchair ramps will also incur a fine, as will running a red light. For details of traffic regulations, contact the **Department of Parking and Transportation**. If you receive a ticket, you are expected to pay the fine or appear in court. After five parking tickets, a “Denver Boot” may be clamped to the wheel, immobilizing the car. This is removed when the fines are paid. If your car has been towed away, call the **Police Department Towed Vehicle Information** line. You'll need to go either to the city's Department of Parking and Transportation or to **City Tow**, depending on whether a private towing company or the municipal towing service has towed your car. Expect to pay a towing and storage fee. For rental cars, you'll need to show the contract before the car will be released. Cars taken to the city lot face an additional parking ticket.

DRIVING OUTSIDE THE CITY

No toll payment is required to leave the city via either the Bay Bridge or the Golden Gate Bridge, but you will need to pay coming back in. Speed limits on highways in and out of San Francisco are 55 mph to 70 mph (88km/h to 112km/h). During rush hour, cars with three or more occupants can use the carpool lane, avoiding both traffic and tolls. Further east, north and south, only two occupants are needed. It is legal to drive in the carpool lane when it's not rush hour, but not to avoid the bridge tolls. Those caught using the car pool lane illegally face steep fines.

DIRECTORY

CAR RENTAL AGENCIES

Avis
Tel *(1) (800) 831-2847.*
www.avis.com

Hertz
Tel *(1) (800) 654-3131.*
www.hertz.com

USEFUL NUMBERS

City Tow
850 Bryant St. **Map** 11 B2.
Tel *621-8605.*

Department of Parking and Transportation
Tel *553-1631.*

Police Department Towed Vehicle Information
Tel *553-1235.*

San Francisco's Taxis

Taxis in San Francisco operate 24 hours a day. Taxis can be hard to find, especially in the outer areas, but the drivers are generally helpful and friendly. Many drivers are veterans eager to share their knowledge of the streets. Taxis are licensed and regulated, so you can always expect courtesy, efficient service and a set price. The guidelines below will help you find a taxi, get an idea of the fare, and understand the regulations.

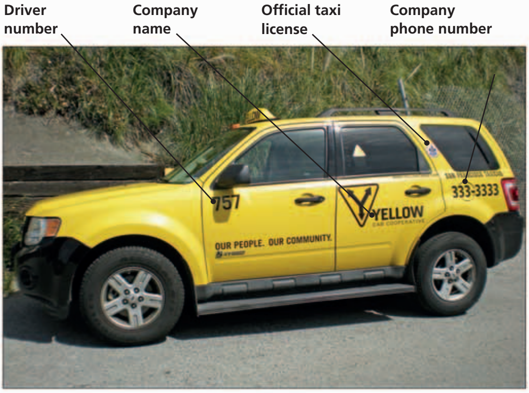
FARE
MAIL
NAV
TRIP LOG
TRIP INFO
TEMP OFF DUTY

Inside a Green Cab with a hybrid engine *(see p292)*

TAKING A TAXI

Cabs have a rooftop sign that is illuminated when the vehicle is vacant. The various company liveries are red-white-and-blue; yellow; yellow-and-orange; and green. All taxis display the company name and telephone number, plus the cab number.

To catch a cab, wait at a taxi stand, call and request a pick-up, or try to hail a vacant cab. When you request a pick-up, give your exact address and name. You are expected to meet the cab on the street, but the dispatcher will typically call with an automated message when the driver is outside. If you wait more than 15 minutes, call again. Requests for cabs to the airport usually get a quick response. Passengers ride in the back seat, which may or may not have seat belts. The meter is on the dashboard. Note the company and cab number or the driver's name and number. Tell the driver your destination and the cross street, if possible. The driver should get you there in the shortest amount of time. Traffic congestion can slow the best drivers down, so it may be better to pay the fare, get out and walk the final few blocks. Taxi drivers do not carry much cash so be prepared to pay by credit card, or with bills of $20 or smaller. Add a 10 to 15 percent tip and hand it to the driver before you get out of the cab. The driver will write a receipt on request. Check you have all your belongings before you get out. If you have left something in a cab, call the cab company and give them the cab number or driver's name.



A San Francisco taxi in yellow livery

FARES

Fares are posted inside the cab. There is a flat fee (around $3.10) for the first mile (1.6 km). This increases by about $2.25 for each additional mile (1.6 km), or 45 cents a minute while waiting outside an address or in traffic delays. The average fare from San Francisco airport to the city center is $45. Fares from the Ferry Building to the west coast ocean beaches are about $30. These fares are estimates only, and they do not include any additional charges such as time spent waiting in heavy traffic, or a tip for the driver.

REGULATIONS

Taxi drivers must carry with them photographic identification and a permit to drive a taxi, called a medallion. Following legislation in 2010, all taxi cabs are now non-smoking. If you need to complain about a taxi driver, call the **Police Department Taxicab Complaint Line**.

DIRECTORY

TAXI COMPANIES

Big Dog City Cab
Tel *920-0711.*

De Soto Cab
Tel *970-1300.*

Green Cab
Tel *626-GREEN.*

Luxor Cab
Tel *282-4141.*

Yellow Cab
Tel *333-3333.*

INFORMATION

Police Department Taxicab Complaint Line
Tel *553-9844.*

STREET FINDER

Map references given with sights, restaurants, hotels, shops and entertainment sites refer to the maps in this section. A complete index of the street names and places of interest marked on the maps follows on pages 313–320. The key map below shows the area of San Francisco covered by the *Street Finder* only. This includes the sightseeing areas (which are color-coded) as well as the whole of central San Francisco, with the main districts where restaurants, hotels and entertainment sites are located. Because the city center is so packed with sights, there is a large-scale map of this area on pages 5 and 6.

KEY TO THE STREET FINDER

- 🟪 Major sight
- 🟫 Places of interest
- ⬜ Other building
- CalTrain station
- BART station
- Long-distance bus terminal
- Streetcar station
- Bus terminal
- Cable car terminal
- Ferry boarding point
- Tourist information office
- Hospital with emergency unit
- Police station
- Church
- Synagogue
- Mosque
- Buddhist temple
- Hindu temple
- Post Office
- Golf course
- Railroad line
- Freeway
- Pedestrian street
- <<665 House number (main street)

SCALE OF MAPS 1–4 AND 7–11

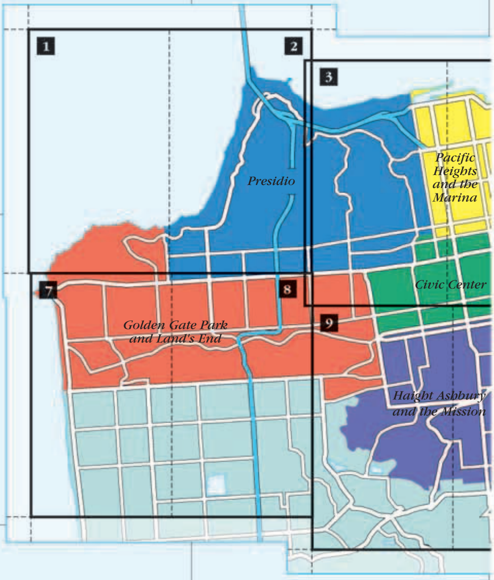
0 meters 500

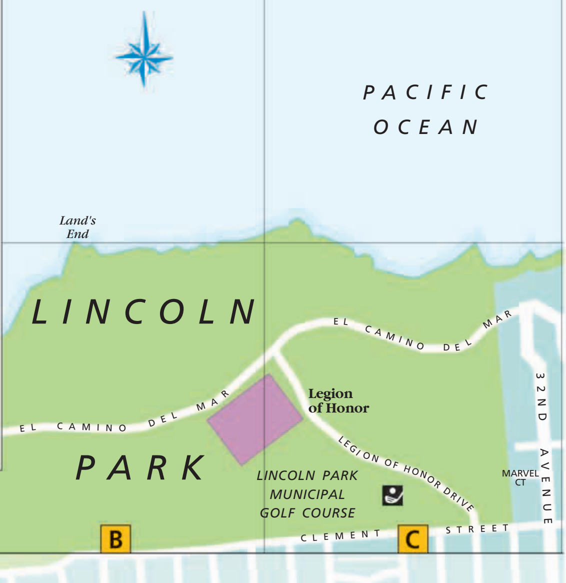
0 yards 500

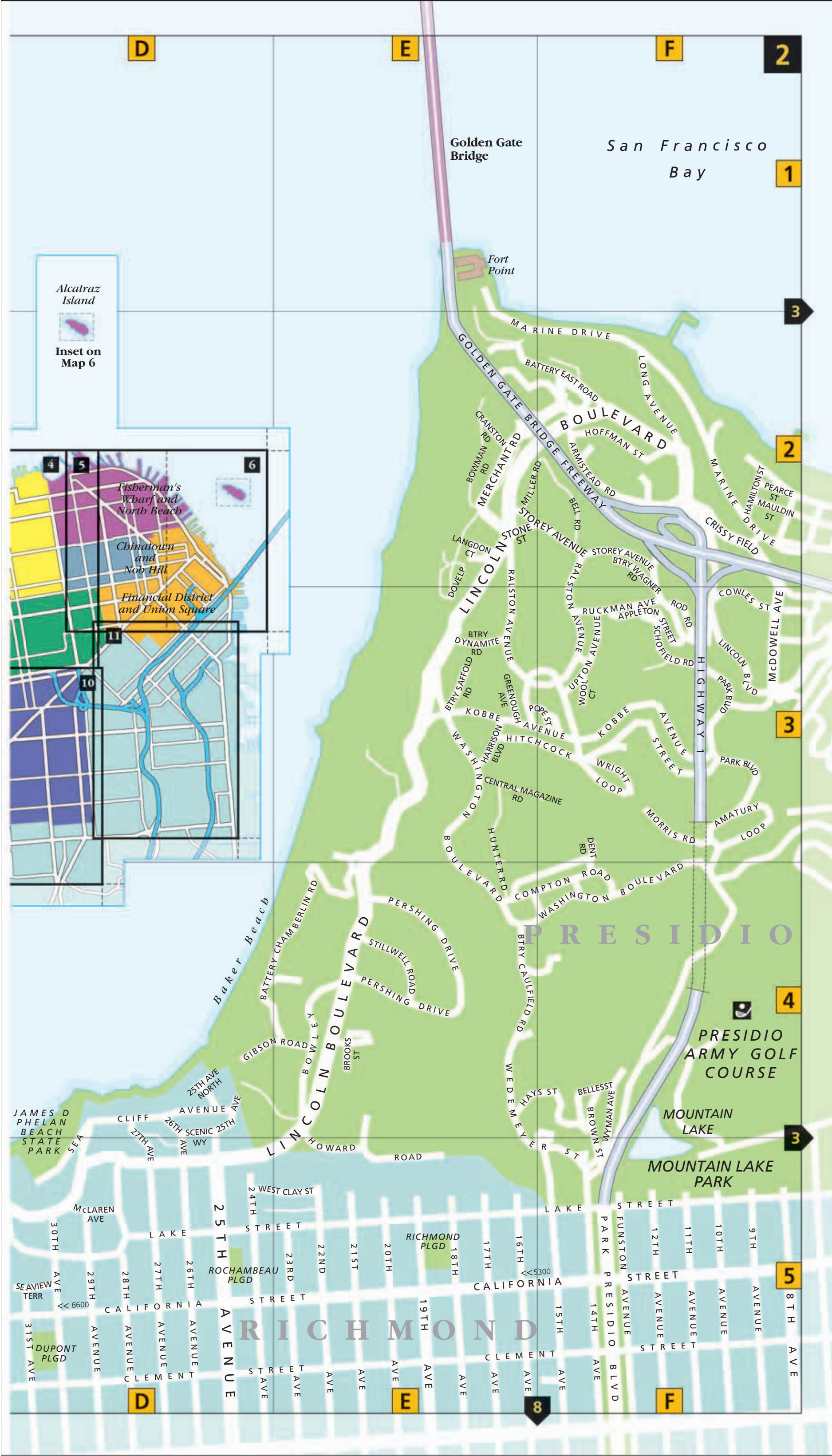
SCALE OF MAPS 5 & 6

0 meters 500

0 yards 500


1
2
3
Presidio
Pacific Heights and the Marina
Civic Center
7
8
9
Golden Gate Park and Land's End
Haight Ashbury and the Mission


PACIFIC OCEAN
Land's End
LINCOLN PARK
EL CAMINO DEL MAR
EL CAMINO DEL MAR
Legion of Honor
LEGION OF HONOR DRIVE
LINCOLN PARK MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE
32ND AVENUE
MARVEL CT
CLEMENT STREET
A
7
B
C



2
D
E
F
1
2
3
4
5
Golden Gate Bridge
San Francisco Bay
Fort Point
Alcatraz Island
Inset on Map 6
4
5
6
10
11
Fisherman's Wharf and North Beach
Chinatown and Nob Hill
Financial District and Union Square
3
MARINE DRIVE
LONG AVENUE
BATTERY EAST ROAD
GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE FREEWAY
BOULEVARD
HOFFMAN ST
CRANSTON RD
BOWMAN RD
MERCHANT RD
ARMISTEAD RD
MILLER RD
BELL RD
MARINE DRIVE
HAMILTON ST
PEARCE ST
MAULDIN ST
CRISSY FIELD
STOREY AVENUE
STONE ST
LANGDON CT
DOVELP CT
LINCOLN
STOREY AVENUE
BTRY WAGNER RD
RALSTON AVENUE
RALSTON AVENUE
RUCKMAN AVE
APPLETON STREET
ROD RD
COWLES ST
McDOWELL AVE
SCHOFIELD RD
BTRY DYNAMITE RD
UPTON AVENUE
WOOL CT
LINCOLN BLVD
PARK BLVD
BTRY SAFFOLD RD
GREENOUGH AVE
POPE ST
HIGHWAY 1
KOBBE AVENUE
KOBBE AVENUE
STREET
HITCHCOCK
WASHINGTON
HARRISON BLVD
WRIGHT LOOP
PARK BLVD
CENTRAL MAGAZINE RD
MORRIS RD
AMATURY LOOP
BOULEVARD
HUNTER RD
DENT RD
COMPTON ROAD
WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
BATTERY CHAMBERLIN RD
PERSHING DRIVE
STILLWELL ROAD
PERSHING DRIVE
BOULEVARD
PRESIDIO
BTRY CAULFIELD RD
Baker Beach
PRESIDIO ARMY GOLF COURSE
GIBSON ROAD
BOWLEY
BROOKS ST
LINCOLN
25TH AVE NORTH
AVENUE
AVE
CLIFF
26TH
SCENIC WY
25TH AVE
27TH AVE
WEDEMEYER ST
HAYS ST
BELLESST
BROWN ST
WYMAN AVE
MOUNTAIN LAKE
MOUNTAIN LAKE PARK
JAMES D PHELAN BEACH STATE PARK
SEA
HOWARD ROAD
WEST CLAY ST
24TH
LAKE STREET
McLAREN AVE
30TH
LAKE
25TH AVENUE
STREET
RICHMOND PLGD
18TH
17TH
16TH
PARK PRESIDIO BLVD
FUNSTON AVENUE
12TH AVENUE
11TH AVENUE
10TH AVENUE
9TH AVENUE
8TH AVE
<<5300
CALIFORNIA
STREET
SEAVIEW TERR
29TH
28TH
27TH
26TH
ROCHAMBEAU PLGD
23RD
22ND
21ST
20TH
<<6600
CALIFORNIA
STREET
19TH AVE
15TH AVE
14TH AVE
RICHMOND
31ST AVE
DUPONT PLGD
AVENUE
AVENUE
AVENUE
AVENUE
CLEMENT
STREET
AVE
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CLEMENT
STREET
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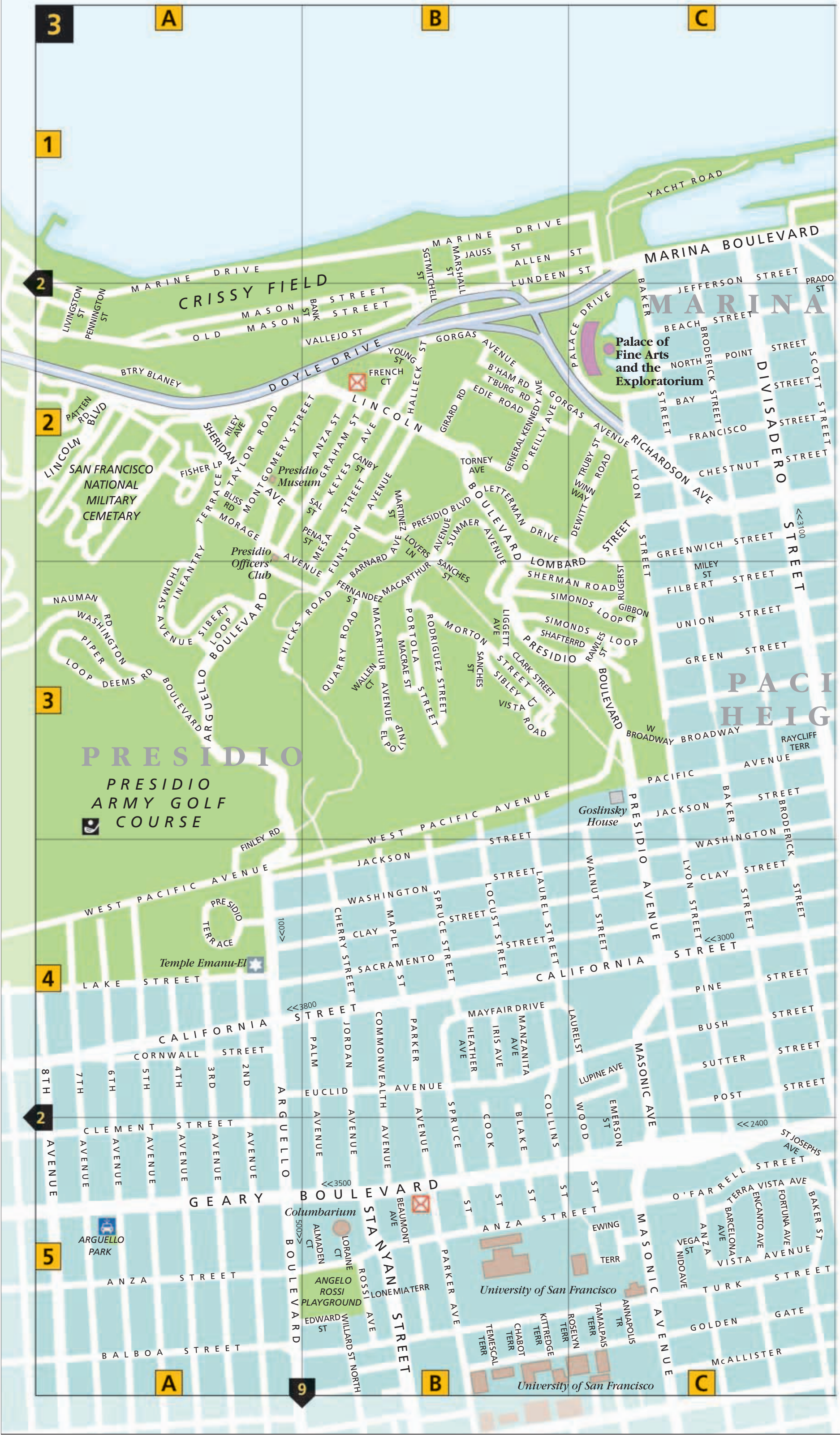
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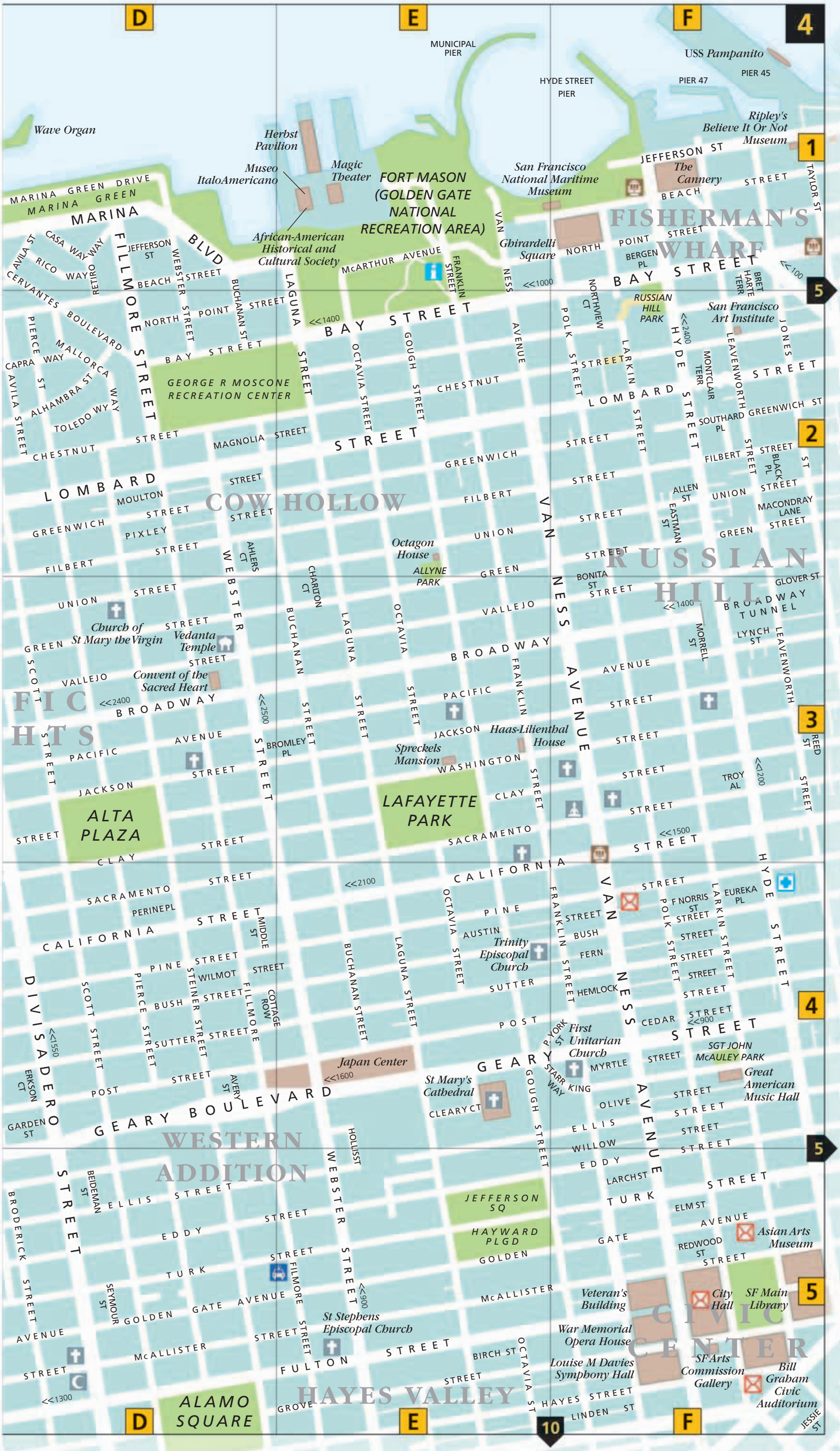
CRISSY FIELD
MARINE DRIVE
MASON STREET
OLD MASON STREET
BANK ST
LIVINGSTON ST
PENNINGTON ST
VALLEJO ST
DOYLE DRIVE
BTRY BLANEY
PATTEN RD
LINCOLN BLVD
YOUNG ST
FRENCH CT
LINCOLN BLVD
HALLECK ST
GORGAS AVENUE
SGT MITCHELL ST
MARSHALL ST
JAUSS ST
ALLEN ST
LUNDEEN ST
DRIVE
YACHT ROAD
MARINA BOULEVARD
JEFFERSON STREET
PRADO ST
MARINA
BAKER
BEACH STREET
PALACE DRIVE
Palace of Fine Arts and the Exploratorium
NORTH POINT STREET
BRODERICK STREET
BAY STREET
FRANCISCO STREET
CHESTNUT STREET
DIVISADERO STREET
SCOTT STREET
<<3100
B'HAM RD
T'BURG RD
EDIE ROAD
GIRARD RD
GENERAL KENNEDY AVE
O'REILLY AVE
GORGAS AVENUE
RICHARDSON AVE
TRUBY ST
ROAD
WINN WAY
DEWITT
LYON STREET
SAN FRANCISCO NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERY
SHERIDAN AVE
RILEY AVE
TAYLOR ROAD
MONTGOMERY STREET
ANZA ST
GRAHAM ST
KEYES AVE
CANBY ST
STREET
AVENUE
FISHER LP
TERRACE
BLISS RD
MORAGE
Presidio Museum
SAL ST
PENA ST
MESA
FUNSTON AVENUE
MARTINEZ ST
PRESIDIO BLVD
LOVERS LN
SUMMER AVENUE
TORNEY AVE
LETTERMAN DRIVE
BOULEVARD
LOMBARD
GREENWICH STREET
MILEY ST
FILBERT STREET
UNION STREET
GREEN STREET
Presidio Officers' Club
AVENUE
BARNARD AVE
SANCHES ST
MACARTHUR
FERNANDEZ ST
SHERMAN ROAD
RUGER ST
SIMONDS LOOP
GIBBON CT
SHAFTER RD
RAWLES ST
PRESIDIO BOULEVARD
NAUMAN
WASHINGTON RD
PIPER LOOP
DEEMS RD
THOMAS AVENUE
INFANTRY
SIBERT LOOP
ARGUELLO BOULEVARD
HICKS ROAD
QUARRY ROAD
MACARTHUR AVENUE
WALLEN CT
PORTOLA
MACRAE ST
RODRIGUEZ STREET
MORTON
SANCHES ST
LIGGETT AVE
CLARK STREET
SIBLEY CT
VISTA ROAD
EL POLIN
W BROADWAY
BROADWAY
RAYCLIFF TERR
PACIFIC AVENUE
PACIFIC HEIGHTS
PRESIDIO
PRESIDIO ARMY GOLF COURSE
Goslinsky House
PRESIDIO AVENUE
JACKSON STREET
BAKER
BRODERICK STREET
WASHINGTON STREET
CLAY STREET
LYON STREET
STREET
FINLEY RD
WEST PACIFIC AVENUE
JACKSON
WASHINGTON
CLAY
MAPLE
CHERRY STREET
SPRUCE STREET
LOCUST STREET
LAUREL STREET
WALNUT STREET
SACRAMENTO ST
CALIFORNIA STREET
<<3000
PRESIDIO TERRACE
100>>
Temple Emanu-El
LAKE STREET
<<3800
CALIFORNIA STREET
MAYFAIR DRIVE
HEATHER AVE
IRIS AVE
MANZANITA AVE
LAURELST
LUPINE AVE
MASONIC AVE
PINE STREET
BUSH STREET
SUTTER STREET
POST STREET
CORNWALL STREET
8TH
7TH
6TH
5TH
4TH
3RD
2ND
PALM
JORDAN
COMMONWEALTH
PARKER
EUCLID AVENUE
ARGUELLO
AVENUE
SPRUCE
COOK
BLAKE
COLLINS
WOOD
EMERSON ST
<<2400
ST JOSEPHS AVE
CLEMENT STREET
AVENUE
<<3500
GEARY BOULEVARD
ST
O'FARRELL STREET
TERRA VISTA AVE
ENCANTO AVE
FORTUNA AVE
BARCELONA AVE
BAKER ST
Columbarium
BEAUMONT AVE
STANYAN STREET
ANZA STREET
EWING TERR
ARGUELLO PARK
500>>
ALMADEN CT
LORAINE CT
ROSSI AVE
PARKER AVE
MASONIC AVENUE
ANZA VISTA AVENUE
VEGA ST
NIDO AVE
ANZA STREET
ANGELO ROSSI PLAYGROUND
LONE MIA TERR
University of San Francisco
TURK STREET
EDWARD ST
WILLARD ST NORTH
BOULEVARD
ANNAPOLIS TR
TAMALPAIS TERR
ROSELYN TERR
KITTREDGE TERR
CHABOT TERR
TEMESCAL TERR
GOLDEN GATE
BALBOA STREET
McALLISTER
University of San Francisco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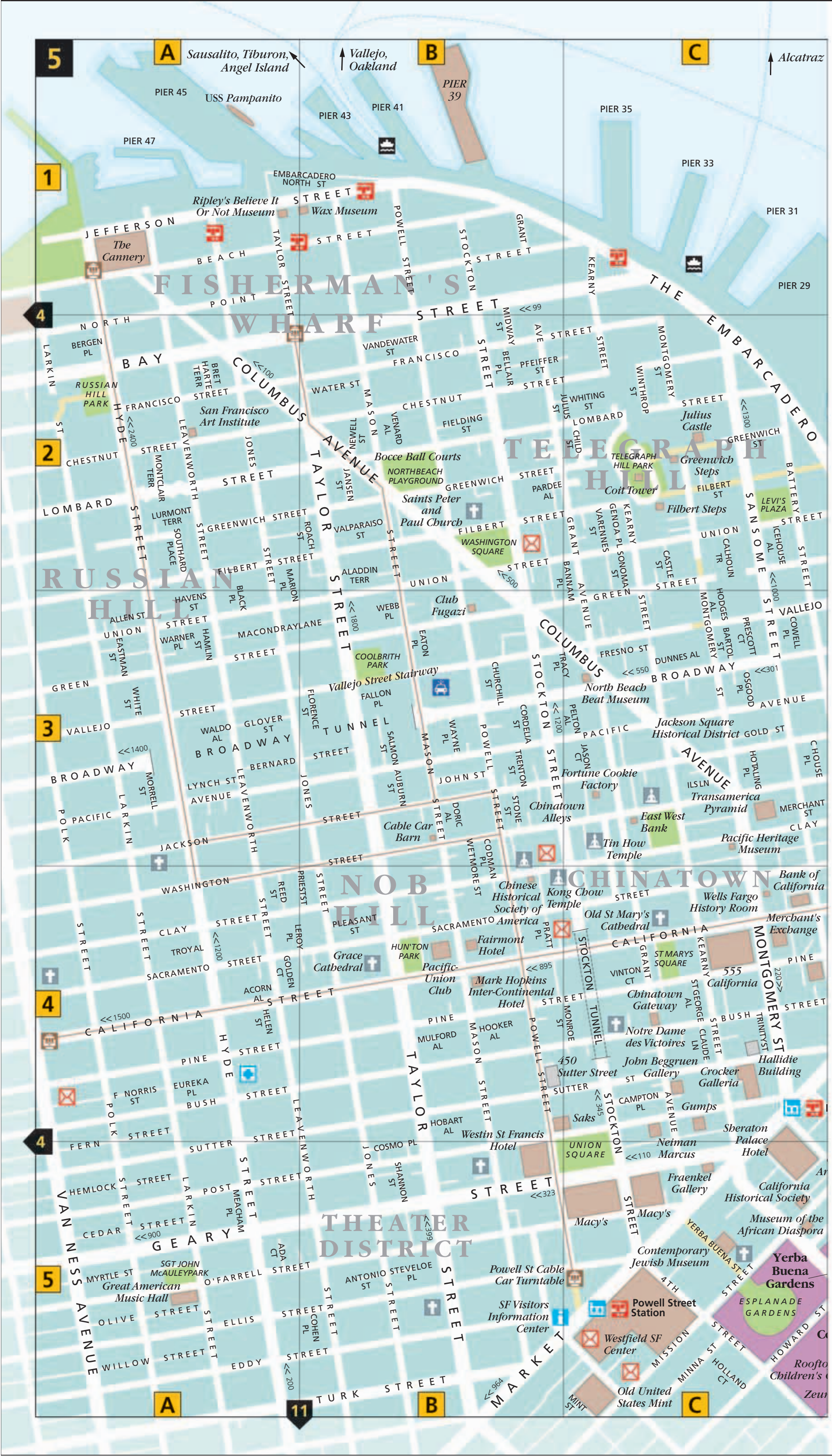
MUNICIPAL PIER
HYDE STREET PIER
USS Pampanito
PIER 47
PIER 45
Wave Organ
Herbst Pavilion
Museo ItaloAmericano
Magic Theater
FORT MASON (GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA)
San Francisco National Maritime Museum
Ripley's Believe It Or Not Museum
JEFFERSON ST
The Cannery
BEACH
STREET
TAYLOR ST
FISHERMAN'S WHARF
African-American Historical and Cultural Society
McARTHUR AVENUE
FRANKLIN STREET
VAN NESS
Ghirardelli Square
NORTH POINT
STREET
BERGEN PL
BAY STREET
<<1000
<<100
BRET HARTE TERR
MARINA GREEN DRIVE
MARINA GREEN
MARINA BLVD
CASA WAY
AVILA ST
RICO WAY
RETIRO WAY
CERVANTES BOULEVARD
JEFFERSON ST
FILLMORE STREET
WEBSTER STREET
BEACH STREET
NORTH POINT STREET
BUCHANAN ST
LAGUNA STREET
<<1400
BAY STREET
OCTAVIA STREET
GOUGH STREET
RUSSIAN HILL PARK
NORTHVIEW CT
POLK STREET
LARKIN STREET
HYDE STREET
<<2400
San Francisco Art Institute
MONTCLAIR TERR
LEAVENWORTH
JONES STREET
PIERCE ST
MALLORCA WAY
CAPRA WAY
AVILA STREET
ALHAMBRA ST
TOLEDO WY
GEORGE R MOSCONE RECREATION CENTER
CHESTNUT STREET
STREET
VAN AVENUE
LOMBARD STREET
SOUTHARD PL
GREENWICH ST
MAGNOLIA STREET
CHESTNUT STREET
GREENWICH
FILBERT STREET
BLACK PL
ST
LOMBARD
MOULTON STREET
COW HOLLOW
STREET
FILBERT
ALLEN ST
EASTMAN ST
UNION STREET
MACONDRAY LANE
GREENWICH
PIXLEY STREET
UNION
GREEN
Octagon House
AHLERS CT
ALLYNE PARK
GREEN
RUSSIAN HILL
FILBERT
BONITA ST
STREET
GLOVER ST
UNION STREET
CHARLTON CT
VALLEJO
BROADWAY TUNNEL
<<1400
Church of St Mary the Virgin
Vedanta Temple
WEBSTER
BUCHANAN
LAGUNA
OCTAVIA
MORRELL ST
LYNCH ST
LEAVENWORTH
GREEN
SCOTT
STREET
BROADWAY
VAN NESS AVENUE
AVENUE
VALLEJO
Convent of the Sacred Heart
FRANKLIN
PACIFIC HEIGHTS
<<2400
BROADWAY
<<2500
STREET
PACIFIC
STREET
AVENUE
BROMLEY PL
JACKSON
Haas-Lilienthal House
STREET
REED ST
PACIFIC
STREET
Spreckels Mansion
WASHINGTON
STREET
TROY AL
<<1200
JACKSON
CLAY
ALTA PLAZA
LAFAYETTE PARK
STREET
STREET
CLAY
SACRAMENTO
<<1500
STREET
CALIFORNIA
<<2100
HYDE STREET
EUREKA PL
SACRAMENTO
PERINE PL
STREET
MIDDLE ST
OCTAVIA STREET
PINE
F NORRIS ST
POLK STREET
LARKIN STREET
CALIFORNIA
AUSTIN
Trinity Episcopal Church
FRANKLIN STREET
BUSH
FERN
PINE
WILMOT
STEINER STREET
FILLMORE
COTTAGE ROW
BUCHANAN STREET
LAGUNA STREET
SUTTER
HEMLOCK
DIVISADERO
SCOTT STREET
PIERCE STREET
BUSH
<<1550
SUTTER
POST
CEDAR
<<900
P. YORK ST
First Unitarian Church
SGT JOHN McAULEY PARK
Japan Center
<<1600
GEARY
STARR KING WAY
MYRTLE
Great American Music Hall
ERKSON CT
POST
AVERY ST
St Mary's Cathedral
GOUGH STREET
CLEARY CT
OLIVE
ELLIS
GARDEN ST
GEARY BOULEVARD
WESTERN ADDITION
HOLLIS ST
WILLOW
EDDY
LARCH ST
TURK
BRODERICK STREET
BEIDEMAN ST
ELLIS
STREET
WEBSTER STREET
JEFFERSON SQ
ELM ST
AVENUE
EDDY
HAYWARD PLGD
GOLDEN
GATE
REDWOOD ST
Asian Arts Museum
TURK
FILLMORE STREET
<<900
McALLISTER
Veteran's Building
City Hall
SF Main Library
CIVIC CENTER
SEYMOUR ST
GOLDEN GATE AVENUE
War Memorial Opera House
AVENUE
St Stephens Episcopal Church
BIRCH ST
OCTAVIA ST
Louise M Davies Symphony Hall
SF Arts Commission Gallery
Bill Graham Civic Auditorium
STREET
McALLISTER
FULTON
STREET
<<1300
HAYES VALLEY
HAYES STREET
GROVE
ALAMO SQUARE
LINDEN ST
JESSIE ST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A
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C
Sausalito, Tiburon, Angel Island
Vallejo, Oakland
Alcatraz
PIER 45
USS Pampanito
PIER 43
PIER 41
PIER 39
PIER 35
PIER 33
PIER 31
PIER 29
PIER 47
1
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5
11
EMBARCADERO NORTH ST
Ripley's Believe It Or Not Museum
Wax Museum
JEFFERSON STREET
The Cannery
BEACH STREET
POINT
NORTH POINT STREET
FISHERMAN'S WHARF
THE EMBARCADERO
TAYLOR STREET
POWELL STREET
STOCKTON STREET
GRANT
KEARNY
BERGEN PL
BAY STREET
LARKIN ST
RUSSIAN HILL PARK
HYDE STREET
FRANCISCO STREET
BRET HARTE TERR
COLUMBUS AVENUE
VANDEWATER ST
FRANCISCO
MIDWAY ST
BELLAIR PL
PFEIFFER ST
WATER ST
MASON ST
CHESTNUT STREET
WHITING ST
JULIUS ST
MONTGOMERY ST
WINTHROP
Julius Castle
GREENWICH ST
San Francisco Art Institute
LEAVENWORTH STREET
JONES STREET
NEWELL ST
VENARD AL
FIELDING ST
LOMBARD
CHILD ST
TELEGRAPH HILL
TELEGRAPH HILL PARK
Greenwich Steps
Coit Tower
FILBERT ST
Filbert Steps
LEVI'S PLAZA
BATTERY STREET
MONTCLAIR TERR
Bocce Ball Courts
NORTHBEACH PLAYGROUND
GREENWICH
Saints Peter and Paul Church
PARDEE AL
LURMONT TERR
SOUTHARD PLACE
ROACH ST
JANSEN ST
VALPARAISO ST
FILBERT
WASHINGTON SQUARE
VARENNES ST
GENOA PL
SONOMA ST
CALHOUN TR
ICEHOUSE AL
SANSOME STREET
UNION
CASTLE ST
BANNAM PL
RUSSIAN HILL
HAVENS ST
BLACK PL
MARION PL
ALADDIN TERR
Club Fugazi
GREEN
ALLEN ST
WARNER PL
HAMLIN ST
EASTMAN ST
MACONDRAY LANE
WEBB PL
EATON PL
COLUMBUS AVENUE
TRACY PL
FRESNO ST
DUNNES AL
HODGES AL
BARTOL ST
PRESCOTT CT
VALLEJO
COWELL PL
COOLBRITH PARK
Vallejo Street Stairway
FALLON PL
CHURCHILL ST
North Beach Beat Museum
BROADWAY
OSGOOD PL
WHITE ST
FLORENCE ST
TUNNEL
CORDELIA ST
PELTON AL
PACIFIC
Jackson Square Historical District
GOLD ST
VALLEJO
WALDO AL
GLOVER ST
BROADWAY
SALMON ST
AUBURN ST
WAYNE PL
JASON CT
Fortune Cookie Factory
AVENUE
HOTALING PL
CHOUSE PL
BERNARD
LYNCH ST
JOHN ST
TRENTON ST
ILS LN
Transamerica Pyramid
MERCHANT ST
MORRELL ST
POLK
PACIFIC
DORIC AL
STONE ST
Chinatown Alleys
East West Bank
CLAY
Cable Car Barn
JACKSON
CODMAN PL
WETMORE ST
Tin How Temple
Pacific Heritage Museum
WASHINGTON
NOB HILL
REED ST
PRIEST ST
CHINATOWN
Chinese Historical Society of America
Kong Chow Temple
Bank of California
Wells Fargo History Room
Old St Mary's Cathedral
Merchant's Exchange
CLAY
TROYAL
LEROY PL
PLEASANT ST
SACRAMENTO
PRATT PL
CALIFORNIA
STOCKTON TUNNEL
GRANT
KEARNY
ST MARYS SQUARE
MONTGOMERY ST
PINE
SACRAMENTO
GOLDEN CT
HUN'TON PARK
Grace Cathedral
Fairmont Hotel
Pacific-Union Club
Mark Hopkins Inter-Continental Hotel
VINTON CT
555 California
ACORN AL
HELEN ST
CALIFORNIA STREET
PINE
MONROE ST
Chinatown Gateway
ST GEORGE AL
BUSH
TRINITY ST
MULFORD AL
HOOKER AL
Notre Dame des Victoires
CLAUDE LN
PINE
HYDE STREET
John Beggruen Gallery
Hallidie Building
EUREKA PL
NORRIS ST
BUSH
450 Sutter Street
Crocker Galleria
SUTTER
CAMPTON PL
Gumps
POLK STREET
LEAVENWORTH STREET
HOBART AL
Saks
Sheraton Palace Hotel
FERN
SUTTER
COSMO PL
JONES ST
Westin St Francis Hotel
UNION SQUARE
Neiman Marcus
SHANNON ST
HEMLOCK
POST
LARKIN
MEACHAM PL
STREET
Fraenkel Gallery
California Historical Society
VAN NESS AVENUE
CEDAR
GEARY
THEATER DISTRICT
Macy's
Macy's
Museum of the African Diaspora
ADA CT
YERBA BUENA ST
Contemporary Jewish Museum
Yerba Buena Gardens
SGT JOHN McAULEY PARK
MYRTLE ST
Great American Music Hall
O'FARRELL
ANTONIO ST
STEVELOE PL
Powell St Cable Car Turntable
4TH
ESPLANADE GARDENS
OLIVE
ELLIS
COHEN PL
SF Visitors Information Center
Powell Street Station
HOWARD
WILLOW
EDDY
Westfield SF Center
MISSION
MINNA ST
HOLLAND CT
Rooftop Children's
TURK
MARKET
Old United States Mint
MINT ST
Zeum
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<<100
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<<1300
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<<500
<<1800
<<550
<<301
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220>>
<<345
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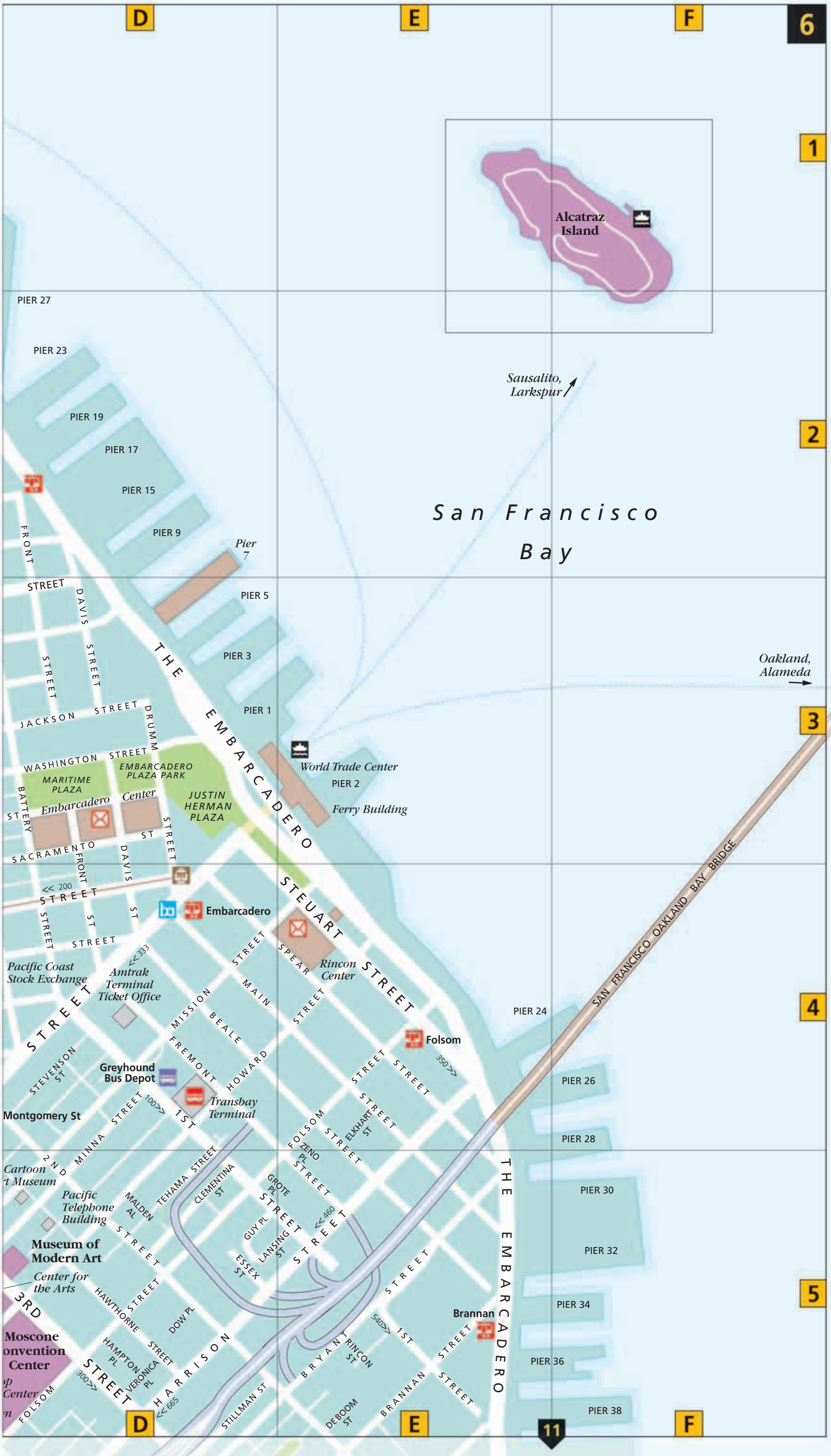
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Alcatraz Island
Sausalito, Larkspur
San Francisco Bay
Oakland, Alameda
PIER 27
PIER 23
PIER 19
PIER 17
PIER 15
PIER 9
Pier 7
PIER 5
PIER 3
PIER 1
World Trade Center
PIER 2
Ferry Building
FRONT
STREET
DAVIS
STREET
STREET
THE EMBARCADERO
JACKSON STREET
DRUMM
WASHINGTON STREET
MARITIME PLAZA
EMBARCADERO PLAZA PARK
JUSTIN HERMAN PLAZA
BATTERY
ST
Embarcadero Center
SACRAMENTO
FRONT
DAVIS
ST
STREET
<< 200
STREET
STREET
ST
ST
STREET
Embarcadero
STEUART STREET
SPEAR
Rincon Center
STREET
MAIN
STREET
Pacific Coast Stock Exchange
<< 333
Amtrak Terminal Ticket Office
MISSION
BEALE
STREET
FREMONT
HOWARD
Folsom
350 >>
STEVENSON ST
Greyhound Bus Depot
Transbay Terminal
100 >>
1ST
STREET
Montgomery St
MINNA
2ND
FOLSOM
ZENO PL
STREET
ELKHART ST
STREET
STREET
Cartoon Art Museum
Pacific Telephone Building
MALDEN AL
TEHAMA STREET
CLEMENTINA ST
GROTE PL
STREET
<< 460
STREET
GUY PL
LANSING ST
ESSEX ST
Museum of Modern Art
Center for the Arts
3RD
HAWTHORNE
STREET
STREET
DOW PL
Moscone Convention Center
Center
FOLSOM
STREET
300 >>
HAMPTON PL
VERONICA PL
STREET
HARRISON
<< 665
STILLMAN ST
BRYANT
RINCON ST
540 >>
1ST
DEBOOM ST
BRANNAN
STREET
STREET
Brannan
THE EMBARCADERO
SAN FRANCISCO OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE
PIER 24
PIER 26
PIER 28
PIER 30
PIER 32
PIER 34
PIER 36
PIER 38
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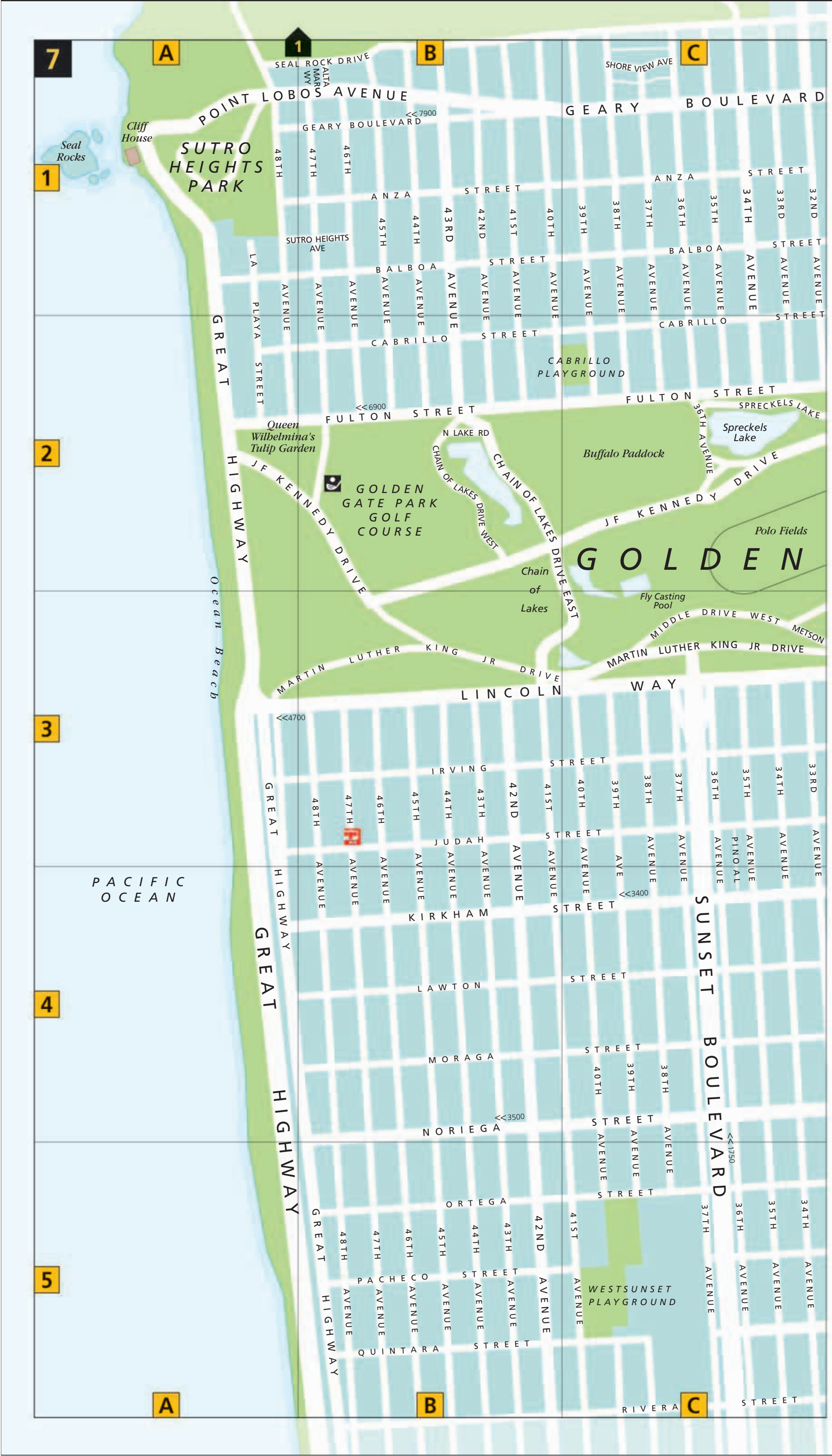
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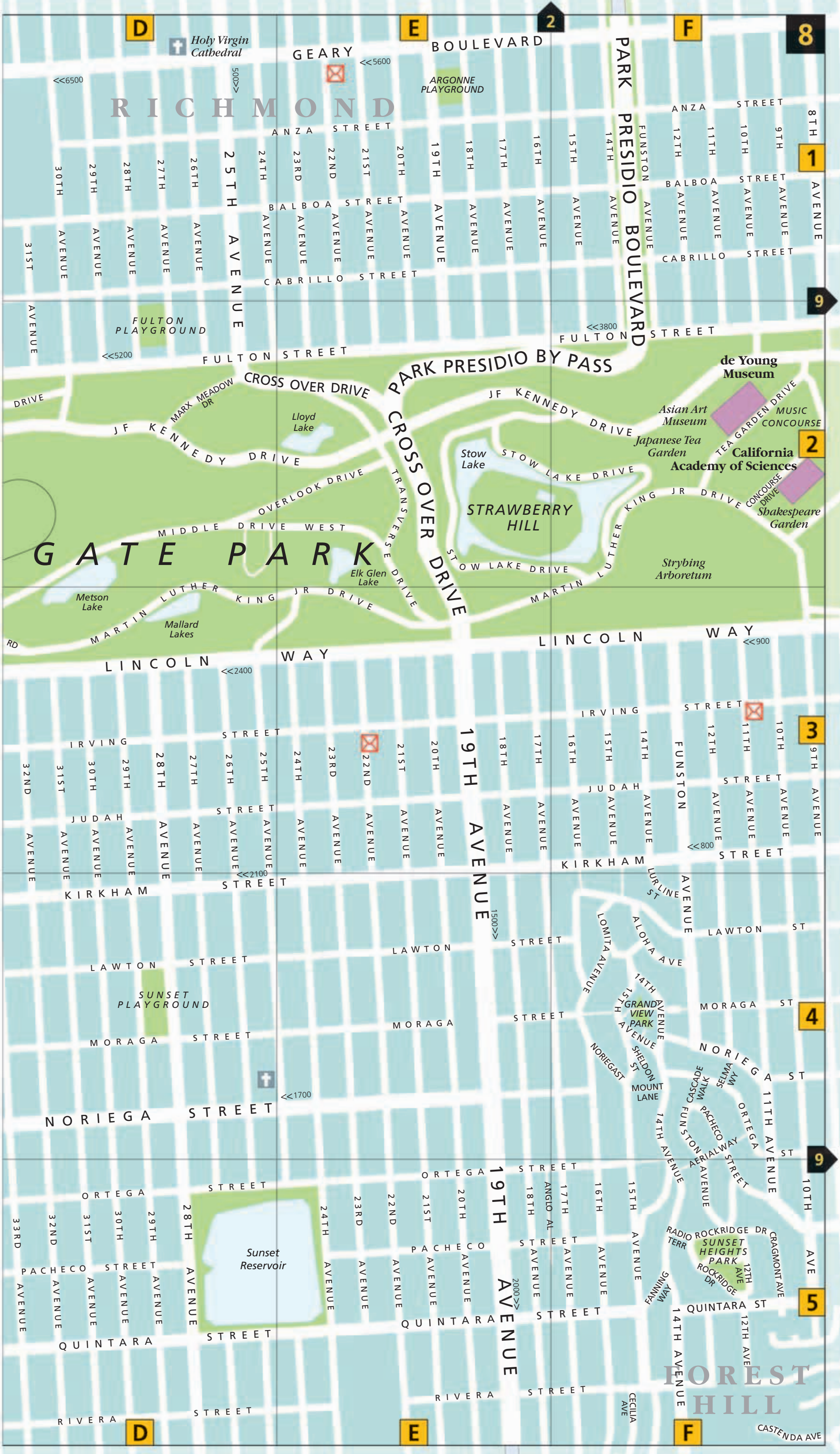
Seal Rocks
Cliff House
SUTRO HEIGHTS PARK
SEAL ROCK DRIVE
ALTA MAR WAY
POINT LOBOS AVENUE
GEARY BOULEVARD
<<7900
SHORE VIEW AVE
ANZA STREET
SUTRO HEIGHTS AVE
LA PLAYA STREET
BALBOA STREET
CABRILLO STREET
48TH AVENUE
47TH AVENUE
46TH AVENUE
45TH AVENUE
44TH AVENUE
43RD AVENUE
42ND AVENUE
41ST AVENUE
40TH AVENUE
39TH AVENUE
38TH AVENUE
37TH AVENUE
36TH AVENUE
35TH AVENUE
34TH AVENUE
33RD AVENUE
32ND AVENUE
CABRILLO PLAYGROUND
FULTON STREET
<<6900
GREAT HIGHWAY
Queen Wilhelmina's Tulip Garden
JF KENNEDY DRIVE
GOLDEN GATE PARK GOLF COURSE
N LAKE RD
CHAIN OF LAKES DRIVE WEST
CHAIN OF LAKES DRIVE EAST
Buffalo Paddock
36TH AVENUE
SPRECKELS LAKE
Spreckels Lake
Polo Fields
GOLDEN
Chain of Lakes
Fly Casting Pool
MIDDLE DRIVE WEST
METSON
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DRIVE
Ocean Beach
LINCOLN WAY
<<4700
IRVING STREET
JUDAH STREET
KIRKHAM STREET
<<3400
PINO AL AVE
LAWTON STREET
MORAGA STREET
NORIEGA STREET
<<3500
ORTEGA STREET
PACHECO STREET
QUINTARA STREET
RIVERA STREET
SUNSET BOULEVARD
<<1750
WEST SUNSET PLAYGROUND
PACIFIC OCEAN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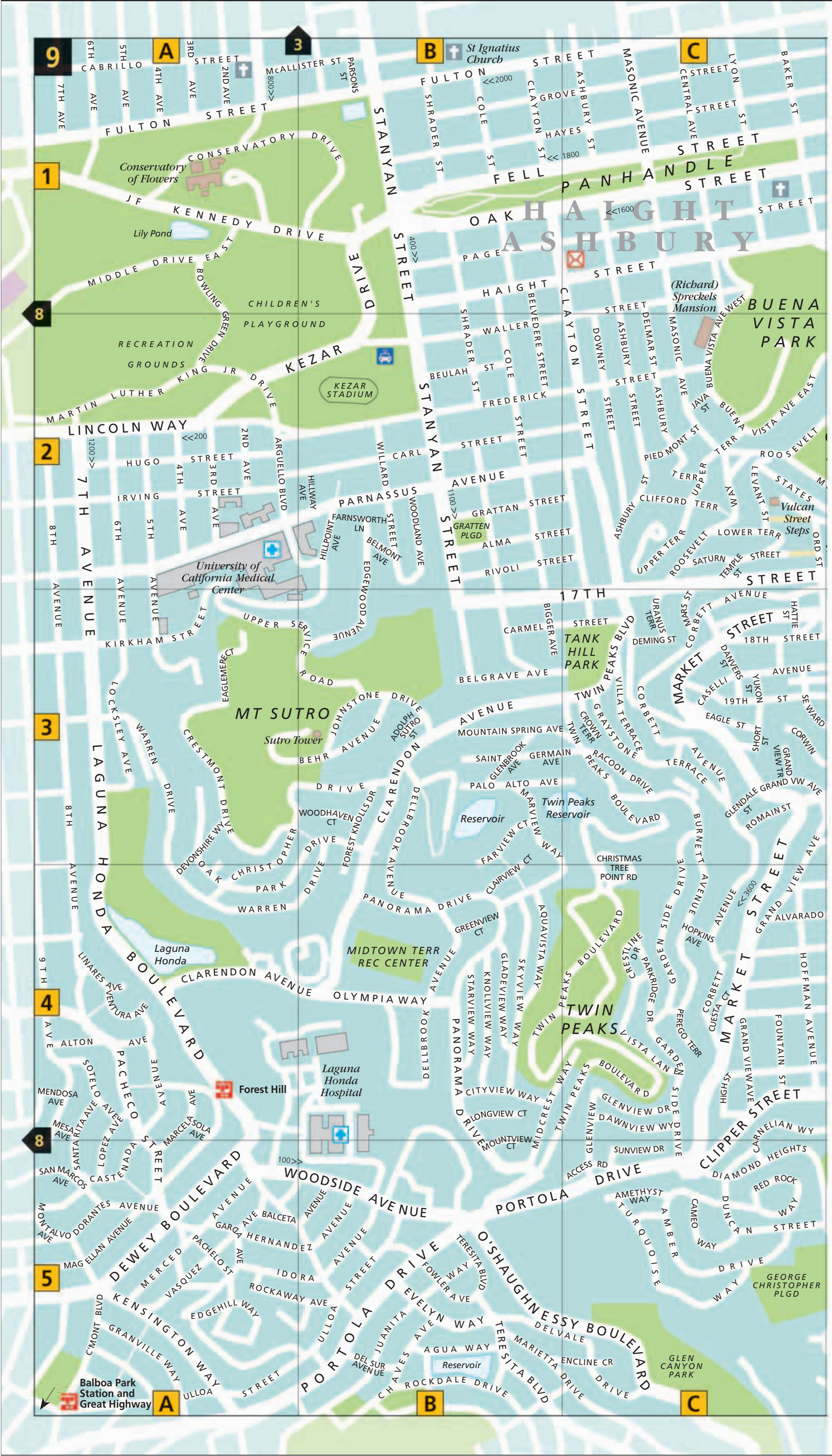
Holy Virgin Cathedral
GEARY BOULEVARD
<<5600
<<6500
500>>
ARGONNE PLAYGROUND
RICHMOND
ANZA STREET
BALBOA STREET
CABRILLO STREET
FULTON STREET
<<3800
<<5200
PARK PRESIDIO BOULEVARD
FUNSTON AVENUE
8TH AVENUE
9TH AVENUE
10TH AVENUE
11TH AVENUE
12TH AVENUE
14TH AVENUE
15TH AVENUE
16TH AVENUE
17TH AVENUE
18TH AVENUE
19TH AVENUE
20TH AVENUE
21ST AVENUE
22ND AVENUE
23RD AVENUE
24TH AVENUE
25TH AVENUE
26TH AVENUE
27TH AVENUE
28TH AVENUE
29TH AVENUE
30TH AVENUE
31ST AVENUE
32ND AVENUE
33RD AVENUE
FULTON PLAYGROUND
PARK PRESIDIO BY PASS
CROSS OVER DRIVE
MARX MEADOW DR
JF KENNEDY DRIVE
Lloyd Lake
de Young Museum
Asian Art Museum
Japanese Tea Garden
TEA GARDEN DRIVE
MUSIC CONCOURSE
California Academy of Sciences
CONCOURSE DRIVE
Shakespeare Garden
Stow Lake
STOW LAKE DRIVE
STRAWBERRY HILL
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DRIVE
Strybing Arboretum
OVERLOOK DRIVE
MIDDLE DRIVE WEST
TRANSVERSE DRIVE
Elk Glen Lake
GATE PARK
Metson Lake
Mallard Lakes
RD
LINCOLN WAY
<<900
<<2400
IRVING STREET
JUDAH STREET
KIRKHAM STREET
<<800
<<2100
LURLINE ST
LOMITA AVENUE
ALOHA AVE
LAWTON STREET
LAWTON ST
1500>>
14TH AVENUE
15TH AVENUE
GRANDVIEW PARK
GRANDVIEW AVENUE
MORAGA STREET
MORAGA ST
SUNSET PLAYGROUND
NORIEGA ST
NORIEGA STREET
SHELDON ST
MOUNT LANE
CASCADE WALK
SELMA WY
PACHECO ST
FUNSTON AVENUE
ORTEGA ST
11TH AVENUE
AERIALWAY STREET
<<1700
ORTEGA STREET
ANGLO AL
Sunset Reservoir
PACHECO STREET
RADIO TERR
ROCKRIDGE DR
SUNSET HEIGHTS PARK
12TH AVE
CRAGMONT AVE
10TH AVE
2000>>
FANNING WAY
QUINTARA STREET
QUINTARA ST
RIVERA STREET
CECILIA AVE
FOREST HILL
CASTENDA AVE


9
A
B
C
1
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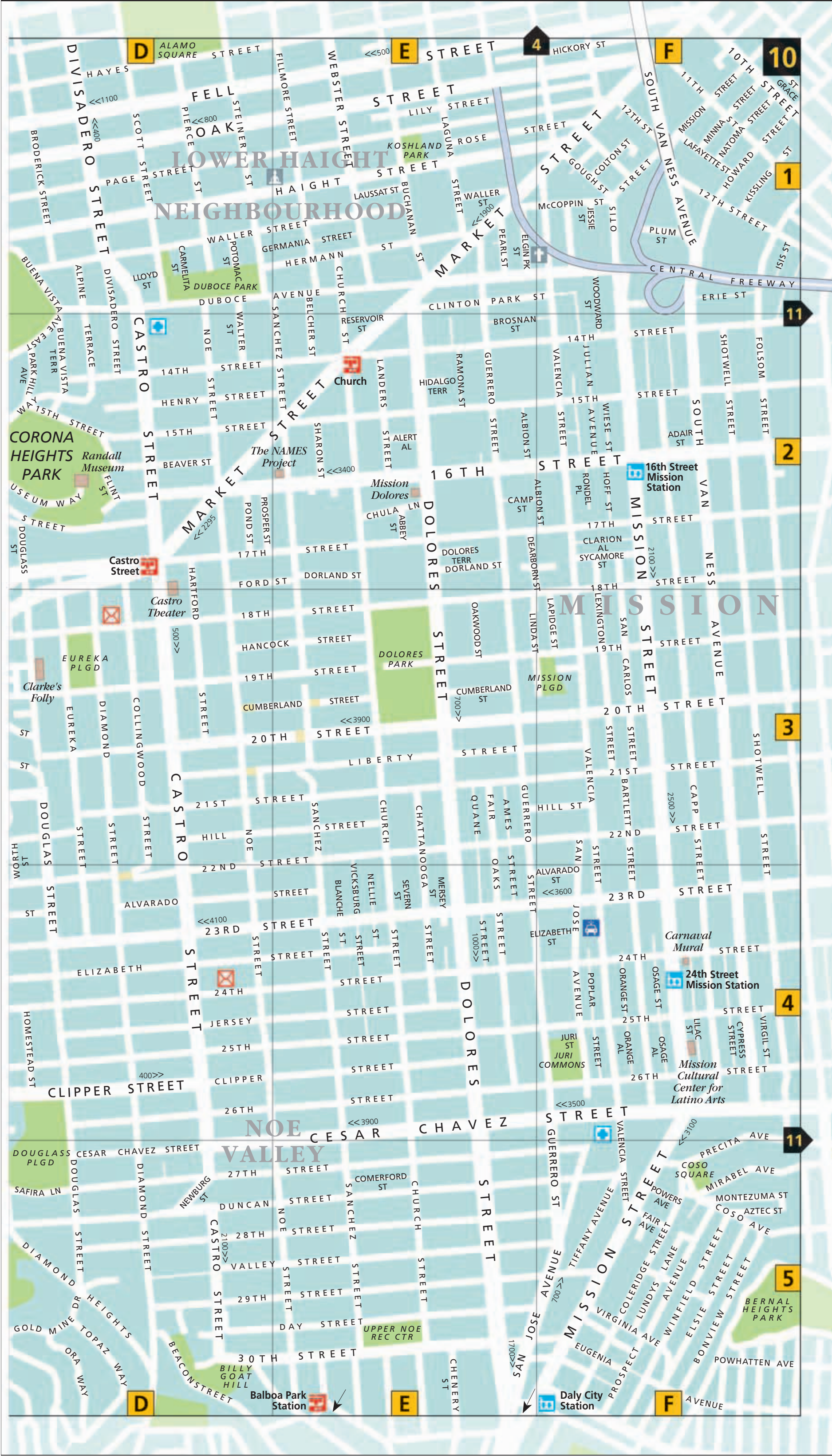
3
8
8
6TH AVE
5TH AVE
4TH AVE
3RD AVE
2ND AVE
7TH AVE
CABRILLO STREET
McALLISTER ST
800>>
PARSONS ST
FULTON STREET
St Ignatius Church
<<2000
SHRADER ST
COLE ST
CLAYTON ST
ASHBURY ST
GROVE
HAYES
MASONIC AVENUE
CENTRAL AVE
LYON ST
BAKER ST
<<1800
FELL STREET
PANHANDLE
OAK STREET
<<1600
HAIGHT ASHBURY
PAGE STREET
400>>
STANYAN STREET
CONSERVATORY DRIVE
Conservatory of Flowers
JF KENNEDY DRIVE
Lily Pond
MIDDLE DRIVE EAST
BOWLING GREEN DRIVE
CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND
RECREATION GROUNDS
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DRIVE
KEZAR DRIVE
KEZAR STADIUM
LINCOLN WAY
<<200
1200>>
HAIGHT STREET
WALLER STREET
BELVEDERE STREET
DOWNEY STREET
DELMAR ST
ASHBURY STREET
MASONIC AVE
(Richard) Spreckels Mansion
BUENA VISTA AVE WEST
BUENA VISTA PARK
BEULAH ST
FREDERICK STREET
JAVA ST
BUENA VISTA AVE EAST
CARL STREET
PIEDMONT ST
ROOSEVELT
HUGO STREET
IRVING STREET
ARGUELLO BLVD
HILLWAY AVE
WILLARD
PARNASSUS AVENUE
1100>>
GRATTAN STREET
GRATTEN PLGD
ALMA STREET
RIVOLI STREET
UPPER TERR
CLIFFORD TERR
LEVANT ST
STATES ST
Vulcan Street Steps
LOWER TERR
SATURN STREET
TEMPLE ST
ORD ST
FARNSWORTH LN
HILLPOINT AVE
BELMONT AVE
WOODLAND AVE
University of California Medical Center
8TH AVENUE
7TH AVENUE
6TH AVENUE
5TH AVENUE
KIRKHAM STREET
UPPER SERVICE ROAD
EDGEWOOD AVENUE
17TH STREET
CARMEL STREET
BIGGER AVE
TANK HILL PARK
URANUS TERR
MARS ST
CORBETT AVENUE
HATTIE ST
DEMING ST
18TH STREET
MARKET STREET
BELGRAVE AVE
TWIN PEAKS BLVD
DANVERS ST
CASELLI AVENUE
YUKON ST
19TH ST
EAGLE ST
SEWARD
CORWIN
SHORT ST
GRAND VIEW TR
EAGLEMERE CT
MT SUTRO
Sutro Tower
JOHNSTONE DRIVE
ADOLPH SUTRO ST
CLARENDON AVENUE
MOUNTAIN SPRING AVE
CROWN TERR
GRAYSTONE TERR
VILLA TERRACE
LOCKSLEY AVE
WARREN DRIVE
CRESTMONT DRIVE
BEHR AVENUE
SAINT GERMAIN AVE
GLENBROOK AVE
PALO ALTO AVE
RACOON DRIVE
TERRACE
GLENDALE ST
GRAND VIEW AVE
ROMAIN ST
LAGUNA HONDA BOULEVARD
DRIVE
WOODHAVEN CT
FOREST KNOLLS DR
DELLBROOK AVENUE
Reservoir
MARVIEW WAY
Twin Peaks Reservoir
FARVIEW CT
CLAIRVIEW CT
CHRISTMAS TREE POINT RD
BURNETT AVENUE
DEVONSHIRE WY
OAK PARK DRIVE
CHRISTOPHER DRIVE
WARREN
PANORAMA DRIVE
GREENVIEW CT
AQUAVISTA WAY
GARDENSIDE DRIVE
<<3600
HOPKINS AVE
ALVARADO
Laguna Honda
MIDTOWN TERR REC CENTER
CRESTLINE DR
PARKRIDGE DR
HOFFMAN AVENUE
9TH AVE
LINARES AVE
VENTURA AVE
OLYMPIA WAY
GLADEVIEW WAY
SKYVIEW WAY
STARVIEW WAY
KNOLLVIEW WAY
TWIN PEAKS
VISTA LANE
PEREGO TERR
CUESTA CT
CORBETT AVE
GRAND VIEW AVE
FOUNTAIN ST
HIGH ST
ALTON AVE
PACHECO STREET
SOTELO AVE
Laguna Honda Hospital
Forest Hill
DELLBROOK
CITYVIEW WAY
TWIN PEAKS BOULEVARD
GLENVIEW DR
DAWNVIEW WY
LONGVIEW CT
MIDCREST WAY
MOUNTVIEW CT
SUNVIEW DR
CLIPPER STREET
CARNELIAN WY
MENDOSA AVE
SANTA RITA AVE
MESA AVE
LOPEZ AVE
CASTENADA AVE
MARCELA AVE
SOLA AVE
SAN MARCOS AVE
100>>
WOODSIDE AVENUE
ACCESS RD
PORTOLA DRIVE
DIAMOND HEIGHTS
RED ROCK WAY
AMETHYST WAY
TURQUOISE
AMBER
CAMEO WAY
DUNCAN STREET
MONTALVO AVE
DORANTES AVENUE
DEWEY BOULEVARD
GARCIA AVE
BALCETA AVE
HERNANDEZ
MAGELLAN AVENUE
MERCED AVE
VASQUEZ
PACHELO ST
IDORA AVENUE
ROCKAWAY AVE
EDGEHILL WAY
TERESITA BLVD
O'SHAUGHNESSY BOULEVARD
FOWLER AVE
EVELYN WAY
GEORGE CHRISTOPHER PLGD
KENSINGTON WAY
GRANVILLE WAY
C'MONT BLVD
ULLOA STREET
JUANITA WAY
DEL SUR AVENUE
CHAVES AVE
AGUA WAY
ROCKDALE DRIVE
MARIETTA DRIVE
DELVALE DRIVE
ENCLINE CR
GLEN CANYON PARK
Balboa Park Station and Great Highway



10
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E
F
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11
LOWER HAIGHT NEIGHBOURHOOD
MISSION
NOE VALLEY
CORONA HEIGHTS PARK
Randall Museum
Alamo Square
Koshland Park
Duboce Park
Dolores Park
Mission Plgd
Eureka Plgd
Douglass Plgd
Juri Commons
Coso Square
Bernal Heights Park
Upper Noe Rec Ctr
Billy Goat Hill
Clarke's Folly
Castro Theater
The NAMES Project
Mission Dolores
Carnaval Mural
Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts
Church
Castro Street
16th Street Mission Station
24th Street Mission Station
Balboa Park Station
Daly City Station
Central Freeway
Market Street
Hayes Street
Fell Street
Oak Street
Page Street
Haight Street
Waller Street
Hermann Street
Germania Street
Duboce Avenue
Lily Street
Rose Street
Laussat St
McCoppin St
Plum St
Erie St
Clinton Park St
Brosnan St
Reservoir St
14th Street
15th Street
16th Street
17th Street
18th Street
19th Street
20th Street
21st Street
22nd Street
23rd Street
24th Street
25th Street
26th Street
27th Street
28th Street
29th Street
30th Street
Henry Street
Beaver St
Ford St
Dorland St
Hancock Street
Cumberland Street
Liberty Street
Hill Street
Alvarado
Elizabeth
Jersey
Clipper Street
Cesar Chavez Street
Duncan Street
Valley Street
Day Street
Divisadero Street
Broderick Street
Scott Street
Pierce Street
Steiner St
Fillmore Street
Webster Street
Buchanan St
Laguna Street
Gough St
Colton St
Jessie St
Otis
Pearl St
Elgin Pk
South Van Ness Avenue
Mission Street
Valencia Street
Guerrero Street
Dolores Street
Church Street
Sanchez Street
Noe Street
Castro Street
Collingwood Street
Diamond Street
Eureka Street
Douglass Street
Alpine Terrace
Buena Vista Terr
Buena Vista Ave East
Park Hill Ave
Museum Way
Flint St
Lloyd St
Carmelita St
Potomac St
Walter St
Belcher St
Landers Street
Sharon St
Prosper St
Pond St
Hartford Street
Chula Ln
Abbey St
Alert Al
Hidalgo Terr
Ramona St
Albion St
Camp St
Dolores Terr
Dearborn St
Julian Avenue
Wiese St
Hoff St
Rondel Pl
Clarion Al
Sycamore St
Lexington St
San Carlos Street
Lapidge St
Linda St
Oakwood St
Bartlett Street
Capp Street
Shotwell Street
Folsom Street
Adair St
Quane
Fair
Ames
Oak St
Chattanooga
Mersey St
Severn St
Nellie
Vicksburg
Blanche
San Jose Avenue
Poplar
Orange St
Osage St
Lilac St
Cypress Street
Virgil St
Juri St
Homestead St
Worth St
Newburg St
Safira Ln
Comerford St
Chenery St
Diamond Heights Dr
Gold Mine Dr
Topaz Way
Ora Way
Beacon Street
Tiffany Avenue
Precita Ave
Mirabel Ave
Montezuma St
Aztec St
Coso Ave
Powers Ave
Fair Ave
Coleridge Street
Lundys Lane
Winfield Street
Elsie Street
Bonview Street
Virginia Ave
Eugenia
Prospect Avenue
Powhatten Ave
Woodward St
Kissling
Howard
Natoma
Minna St
Lafayette St
Mission Street
11th
10th
12th St
12th Street
Grace St
Isis St
Hickory St
Ortega
<<500
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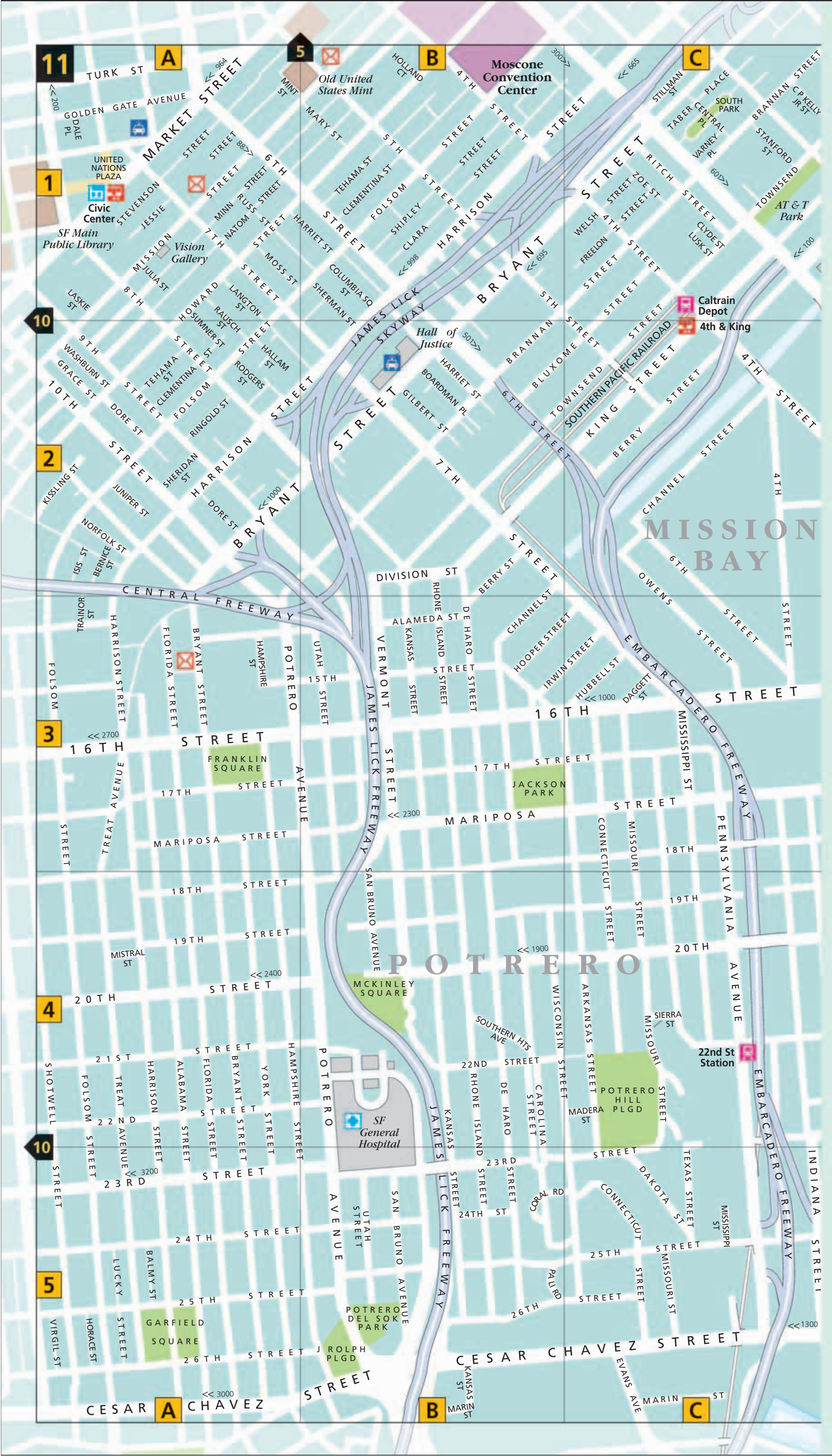
1700>>


11
A
B
C
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10
10
Moscone Convention Center
Old United States Mint
Civic Center
SF Main Public Library
UNITED NATIONS PLAZA
Vision Gallery
Hall of Justice
Caltrain Depot
4th & King
AT & T Park
SOUTH PARK
22nd St Station
SF General Hospital
MISSION BAY
POTRERO
FRANKLIN SQUARE
JACKSON PARK
MCKINLEY SQUARE
POTRERO HILL PLGD
POTRERO DEL SOK PARK
J ROLPH PLGD
GARFIELD SQUARE
MARKET STREET
TURK ST
GOLDEN GATE AVENUE
DALE PL
MINT ST
HOLLAND CT
MARY ST
STEVENSON
JESSIE
MISSION
JULIA ST
LASKIE ST
MINNA
NATOM
RUSS
MOSS ST
HOWARD
SUMNER ST
RAUSCH ST
LANGTON ST
HALLAM ST
TEHAMA ST
CLEMENTINA ST
FOLSOM
SHIPLEY
CLARA
HARRISON
HARRIET ST
COLUMBIA SQ
SHERMAN ST
JAMES LICK SKYWAY
BRYANT
BRANNAN
BLUXOME
TOWNSEND
KING
BERRY
CHANNEL
SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD
STILLMAN ST
TABER PL
CENTRAL PL
VARNEY PL
BRANNAN
CP KELLY JR ST
STANFORD ST
TOWNSEND
RITCH
ZOE ST
WELSH
FREELON
CLYDE ST
LUSK ST
BOARDMAN PL
GILBERT ST
HARRIET ST
RODGERS ST
RINGOLD ST
SHERIDAN ST
DORE ST
WASHBURN ST
GRACE ST
KISSLING ST
JUNIPER ST
NORFOLK ST
ISIS ST
BERNICE ST
TRAINOR ST
CENTRAL FREEWAY
DIVISION ST
ALAMEDA ST
RHONE ISLAND
DE HARO
KANSAS
VERMONT
BERRY ST
CHANNEL ST
HOOPER STREET
IRWIN STREET
HUBBELL ST
DAGGETT ST
OWENS
EMBARCADERO FREEWAY
MISSISSIPPI ST
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
CONNECTICUT
MISSOURI
16TH STREET
17TH STREET
MARIPOSA STREET
18TH STREET
19TH STREET
20TH STREET
21ST STREET
22ND STREET
23RD STREET
24TH STREET
25TH STREET
26TH STREET
CESAR CHAVEZ STREET
HARRISON STREET
FLORIDA STREET
BRYANT STREET
HAMPSHIRE ST
POTRERO AVENUE
UTAH STREET
15TH STREET
JAMES LICK FREEWAY
SAN BRUNO AVENUE
TREAT AVENUE
FOLSOM STREET
MISTRAL ST
SHOTWELL STREET
ALABAMA STREET
YORK STREET
SOUTHERN HTS AVE
WISCONSIN STREET
ARKANSAS STREET
CAROLINA STREET
MADERA ST
SIERRA ST
DAKOTA ST
TEXAS STREET
CORAL RD
PALI RD
EVANS AVE
MARIN ST
INDIANA STREET
LUCKY
BALMY ST
VIRGIL ST
HORACE ST
<< 200
<< 964
88>
<< 665
300>
601>
<< 100
<< 998
<< 695
501>
<< 1000
<< 2700
<< 2300
<< 1000
<< 1900
<< 2400
<< 3200
<< 3000
<< 1300

D
STREET
KING STREET
1
2nd & King
AT & T Park
CHINA BASIN ST
3RD
MISSION ROCK ST
2
Mission Rock
UCSF Mission Bay
STREET
ILLINOIS STREET
<<800
1900>>
3
Mariposa
<< 400
STREET
STREET
20th St
STREET
TENNESSEE
2600>>
4
22ND STREET
STREET
3RD
TUBBS ST
23rd St
23RD ST
STREET
MINNESOTA
25TH STREET
26TH ST
STREET
5
3000>>
MARIN STREET
D

Street Finder Index

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Alameda Street **11 B3**
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Alert Alley **10 E2**
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Barcelona Avenue **3 C5**
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Bartol Street **5 C3**
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Battery Chamberlin Road **2 D4**
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Battery Saffold Road **2 E3**
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Douglass Street 10 D2
Dove Loop 2 E3
Dow Place 6 D5
Downey Street 9 C2
Doyle Drive 3 A2
Drumm Street 6 D3
Duboce Avenue 10 D1
Duboce Park 10 D1
Duncan Street 9 C5
Dunnes Alley 5 C3
Dupont Playground 2 D5

E

Eagle Street 9 C3
Eaglemere Court 9 A3
Eastman Street 4 F2
continues 5 A3
Eaton Place 5 B3
Eddy Street 4 D5
continues 5 A5
Edgehill Way 9 A5
Edgewood Avenue 9 B2
Edie Road 3 B2
Edward Street 3 B5
Eight Avenue 2 F5
Eighteenth Avenue 2 E5
continues 8 E1
Eighteenth Street 9 C3
continues 11 A4
Eighth Avenue 3 A4
continues 8 F1
continues 9 A2
Eighth Street 11 A1
El Camino del Mar 1 B5
El Polin Loop 3 B3
Eleventh Avenue 2 F5
continues 8 F1
Eleventh Street 10 F1
Elgin Park Street 10 E1
Elizabeth Street 10 D4
Elk Glen Lake 8 E2
Elkhart 6 E4
Ellis Street 4 D5
continues 5 A5
Elm Street 4 F5
Elsie Street 10 F5
Embarcadero Center 6 D3
Embarcadero Freeway 11 C3

Embarcadero North Street **5 A1**
Embarcadero Plaza Park **6 D3**
Embarcadero Station **6 D4**
Emerson Street **3 C4**
Encanto Avenue **3 C5**
Encline Crescent **9 C5**
Erie Street **10 F1**
Erkson Court **4 D4**
Essex Street **6 D5**
Euclid Avenue **3 B4**
Eugenia Avenue **10 F5**
Eureka Place **4 F4**
continues **5 A4**
Eureka Playground **10 D3**
Eureka Street **10 D3**
Evans Avenue **11 C5**
Evelyn Way **9 B5**
Ewing Terrace **3 C5**

F

F. Norris Street **4 F4**
continues **5 A4**
Fair Avenue **10 F5**
Fair Oaks Street **10 E3**
Fairmont Hotel **5 B4**
Fallon Place **5 B3**
Fanning Way **8 F5**
Farnsworth Lane **9 B2**
Farview Court **9 B3**
Fell Street **9 B1**
Fern Street **4 E4**
continues **5 A5**
Fernandez Street **3 B3**
Ferry Building **6 E3**
Fielding Street **5 B2**
Fifteenth Avenue **2 F5**
continues **8 F1**
Fifteenth Street **10 D2**
continues **11 A3**
Fifth Avenue **3 A4**
continues **9 A1**
Fifth Street **11 B1**
Filbert Steps **5 C2**
Filbert Street **3 C3**
continues **5 A2**
Fillmore Street **4 D1**
continues **10 E1**
Finley Road **3 A4**
First Street **6 D4**
Fisher Loop **3 A2**
Flint Street **10 D2**
Florence Street **5 B3**
Florida Street **11 A3**
Fly Casting Pool **7 C2**
Folsom Street **6 D5**
continues **10 F2**
continues **11 A3**
Ford Street **10 D2**
Forest Hill Station **9 A4**
Forest Knolls Drive **9 B4**
Fort Mason (Golden Gate National Recreation Area) **4 E1**
Fort Point **2 E1**
Fortieth Avenue **7 B1**
Fortuna Avenue **3 C5**
Fortune Cookie Factory **5 C3**
Forty-eighth Avenue **7 A1**
Forty-fifth Avenue **7 B1**
Forty-first Avenue **7 B1**
Forty-fourth Avenue **7 B1**
Forty-second Avenue **7 B1**
Forty-seventh Avenue **7 B1**
Forty-sixth Avenue **7 B1**
Forty-third Avenue **7 B1**
Fountain Street **9 C4**
Fourteenth Avenue **2 F5**
continues **8 F1**
Fourteenth Street **10 D2**
Fourth Avenue **3 A4**
continues **9 A1**
Fourth Street **5 C5**
continues **11 B1**
Fowler Avenue **9 B5**
Fraenkel Gallery **5 C5**
Francisco Street **3 C2**
continues **5 A2**
Franklin Square **11 A3**
Franklin Street **4 E1**
Frederick Street **9 B2**
Freelon Street **11 C1**
Fremont Street **6 D4**
French Court **3 B2**
Fresno Street **5 C3**
Friends of Photography Gallery **5 C5**
continues **11 B1**
Front Street **6 D2**
Fulton Playground **8 D2**
Fulton Street **4 E5**
Fulton Street **7 B2**
continues **9 A1**
Funston Avenue **2 F5**
continues **8 F1**
Funston Avenue **3 B3**

G

Garcia Avenue **9 A5**
Garden Side Drive **9 C4**
Garden Street **4 D4**
Garfield Square **11 A5**
Geary Boulevard **3 A5**
continues **7 A1**
Geary Street **4 E4**
continues **5 A5**
General Kennedy Avenue **3 B2**
Genoa Place **5 C2**
George Christopher Playground **9 C5**
George R. Moscone Recreation Center **4 D2**
Germania Street **10 D1**
Ghirardelli Square **4 F1**
Gibbon Court **3 C3**
Gibson Road **2 D4**
Gilbert Street **11 B2**
Girard Road **3 B2**
Gladeview Way **9 B4**
Glen Canyon Park **9 C5**
Glenbrook Avenue **9 B3**
Glendale Street **9 C3**
Glenview Drive **9 C4**
Glover Street **4 F3**
continues **5 A3**
Gold Street **5 C3**
Golden Court **5 A4**
Golden Gate Avenue **3 C5**
continues **11 A1**
Golden Gate Bridge **2 E1**
Golden Gate Bridge Freeway **2 E2**
Golden Gate Park **7 C2**
Golden Gate Park Golf Course **7 B2**
Goldmine Drive **10 D5**
Gorgas Avenue **3 B2**
Goslinsky House **3 C3**
Gough Street **4 E2**
continues **10 F1**
Grace Cathedral **5 B4**
Grace Street **10 F1**
continues **11 A2**
Graham Street **3 B2**
Grand View Avenue **9 C4**
Grand View Park **8 F4**
Grand View Terrace **9 C3**
Grant Avenue **5 B1**
Granville Way **9 A5**
Grattan Street **9 B2**
Gratten Playground **9 B2**
Graystone Terrace **9 C3**
Great American Music Hall **4 F4**
continues **5 A5**
Great Highway **7 A2**
Green Street **3 C3**
continues **5 A3**
Greenough Avenue **2 E3**
Greenview Court **9 B4**
Greenwich Steps **5 C2**
Greenwich Street **3 C2**
continues **5 A2**
Greyhound Bus Depot **6 D4**
Grote Place **6 D5**
Grove Street **4 E5**
continues **9 B1**
Guerrero Street **10 E2**
Gumps **5 C4**
Guy Place **6 D5**

H

Haas Lilienthal House **4 E3**
Haight Street **9 B1**
Hall of Justice **11 B2**
Hallam Street **11 A2**
Halleck Street **3 B2**
Hamilton Street **2 F2**
Hamlin Street **5 A3**
Hampshire Street **11 A3**
Hampton Place **6 D5**
Hancock Street **10 D3**
Harriet Street **11 A1**
Harrison Boulevard **2 E3**
Harrison Street **6 D5**
continues **11 A2**
Hartford Street **10 D2**
Hattie Street **9 C3**
Havens Street **5 A3**
Hawthorne Street **6 D5**
Hayes Street **4 E5**
continues **9 B1**
Hays Street **2 E4**
Hayward Playground **4 E5**
Heather Avenue **3 B4**
Helen Street **5 A4**
Hemlock Street **4 F4**
continues **5 A5**
Henry Street **10 D2**
Hermann Street **10 E1**
Hernandez Avenue **9 A5**
Hickory Street **10 E1**
Hicks Road **3 A3**
Hidalgo Terrace **10 E2**
High Street **9 C4**
Highway 1 **2 F3**
Hill Street **10 D3**
Hillpoint Avenue **9 B2**
Hillway Avenue **9 B2**
Hitchcock Street **2 E3**
Hobart Alley **5 B4**
Hodges Alley **5 C3**
Hoff Street **10 F2**
Hoffman Avenue **9 C4**
Hoffman Street **2 F2**
Holland Court **5 C5**
continues **11 B1**
Hollis Street **4 E4**
Holy Virgin Cathedral **8 D1**
Homestead Street **10 D4**
Hooker Alley **5 B4**

Hooper Street	**11 B3**
Hopkins Avenue	**9 C4**
Horace Street	**11 A5**
Hotaling Place	**5 C3**
Howard Road	**2 E5**
Howard Street	**5 C5**
continues	**10 F1**
continues	**11 A1**
Hubbell Street	**11 C3**
Hugo Street	**9 A2**
Hunter Road	**2 E3**
Huntington Park	**5 B4**
Hyatt Regency Hotel	**6 D3**
Hyde Street	**4 F2**
continues	**5 A2**
Hyde Street Pier	**4 F1**

I

Icehouse Alley	**5 C2**
Idora Avenue	**9 A5**
Illinois Lane	**5 C3**
Illinois Street	**11 D3**
Indiana Street	**11 C5**
Infantry Terrace	**3 A3**
Iris Avenue	**3 B4**
Irving Street	**7 B3**
continues	**9 A2**
Irwin Street	**11 B3**
Isis Street	**10 F1**
continues	**11 A2**

J

J. Rolph Playground	**11 B5**
Jackson Park	**11 B3**
Jackson Square Historical District	**5 C3**
Jackson Street	**3 B4**
continues	**5 A3**
James D Phelan Beach State Park	**2 D4**
James Lick Freeway	**11 B3**
James Lick Skyway	**11 B2**
Jansen Street	**5 B2**
Japan Center	**4 E4**
Japanese Tea Garden	**8 F2**
Jason Court	**5 C3**
Jauss Street	**3 B1**
Java Street	**9 C2**
Jefferson Square	**4 E5**
Jefferson Street	**3 C2**
continues	**5 A1**
Jersey Street	**10 D4**
Jessie Street	**4 F5**
continues	**11 A1**
Jessie Street	**10 F1**
John Beggruen Gallery	**5 C4**
John F. Kennedy Drive	**7 A2**
continues	**9 A1**
John McLaren Lodge	**9 B1**
John Street	**5 B3**
Johnstone Drive	**9 B3**
Jones Street	**4 F2**
continues	**5 A2**
Jordan Avenue	**3 B4**
Juanita Way	**9 B5**
Judah Street	**7 B3**
Julia Street	**11 A1**
Julian Avenue	**10 F2**
Julius Castle	**5 C2**
Julius Street	**5 C2**
Juniper Street	**11 A2**
Juri Commons	**10 F4**
Juri Street	**10 F4**
Justin Herman Plaza	**6 D3**

K

Kansas Street	**11 B3**
Kearny Street	**5 C1**
Kensington Way	**9 A5**
Keyes Avenue	**3 B2**
Kezar Drive	**9 A2**
Kezar Stadium	**9 B2**
King Street	**11 C2**
Kirkham Street	**7 B4**
continues	**9 A3**
Kissling Street	**10 F1**
continues	**11 A2**
Kittredge Terrace	**3 B5**
Knollview Way	**9 B4**
Kobbe Avenue	**2 E3**
Kong Chow Temple	**5 B4**
Koshland Park	**10 E1**

L

La Playa Street	**7 A1**
Lafayette Park	**4 E3**
Lafayette Street	**10 F1**
Laguna Honda	**9 A4**
Laguna Honda Boulevard	**9 A3**
Laguna Honda Hospital	**9 B4**
Laguna Street	**4 E1**
continues	**10 E1**
Lake Street	**2 D5**
continues	**3 A4**
Land's End	**1 B5**
Landers Street	**10 E2**
Langdon Court	**2 E2**
Langton Street	**11 A1**
Lansing Street	**6 D5**
Lapidge Street	**10 F3**
Larch Street	**4 F5**
Larkin Street	**4 F2**
continues	**5 A2**
Laskie Street	**11 A1**
Laurel Street	**3 B4**
Laussat Street	**10 E1**
Lawton Street	**7 B4**
Leavenworth Street	**4 F2**
continues	**5 A2**
Legion of Honor	**1 C5**
Legion of Honor Drive	**1 C5**
Leroy Place	**5 A4**
Letterman Drive	**3 B2**
Levant Street	**9 C2**
Levi's Plaza	**5 C2**
Lexington Street	**10 F3**
Liberty Street	**10 E3**
Liggett Avenue	**3 B3**
Lilac Street	**10 F4**
Lily Pond	**9 A1**
Lily Street	**10 E1**
Linares Avenue	**9 A4**
Lincoln Boulevard	**2 E5**
continues	**3 A2**
Lincoln Park	**1 B5**
Lincoln Park Municipal Golf Course	**1 C5**
Lincoln Way	**7 B3**
continues	**9 A2**
Linda Street	**10 E3**
Linden Street	**4 E5**
Livingston Street	**3 A2**
Lloyd Lake	**8 E2**
Lloyd Street	**10 D1**
Locksley Avenue	**9 A3**
Locust Street	**3 B4**
Lombard Street	**3 B3**
continues	**5 A2**
Lomita Avenue	**8 F4**
Lone Mia Terrace	**3 B5**
Long Avenue	**2 F2**
Longview Court	**9 B4**
Lopez Avenue	**9 A5**
Loraine Court	**3 B5**
Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall	**4 F5**
Lovers Lane	**3 B2**
Lower Terrace	**9 C2**
Lower Vista Terrace	**9 C2**
Lucky Street	**11 A5**
Lundeen Street	**3 B1**
Lundys Lane	**10 F5**
Lupine Avenue	**3 C4**
Lurline Street	**8 F3**
Lurmont Terrace	**5 A2**
Lusk Street	**11 C1**
Lynch Street	**4 F3**
continues	**5 A3**
Lyon Street	**3 C2**
continues	**9 C1**

M

MacArthur Avenue	**3 B3**
Macondray Lane	**4 F2**
continues	**5 A3**
Macrae Street	**3 B3**
Macy's	**5 C5**
Madera Street	**11 C4**
Magellan Avenue	**9 A5**
Magnolia Street	**4 D2**
Main Street	**6 D4**
Malden Alley	**6 D5**
Mallard Lakes	**8 D3**
Mallorca Way	**4 D2**
Manzanita Avenue	**3 B4**
Maple Street	**3 B4**
Marcela Avenue	**9 A4**
Marietta Drive	**9 B5**
Marin Street	**11 B5**
Marina Boulevard	**3 C1**
Marina Green	**4 D1**
Marina Green Drive	**4 D1**
Marine Drive	**2 E2**
continues	**3 A2**
Marion Place	**5 A2**
Mariposa Street	**11 A3**
Maritime Plaza	**6 D3**
Mark Hopkins Inter-Continenental Hotel	**5 B4**
Market Street	**5 C5**
continues	**9 C4**
continues	**11 A1**
Mars Street	**9 C3**
Marshall Street	**3 B1**
Martin Luther King Junior Drive	**7 A3**
continues	**9 A2**
Martinez Street	**3 B2**
Marvel Court	**1 C5**
Marview Way	**9 B3**
Marx Meadow Drive	**8 D2**
Mary Street	**11 B1**
Mason Street	**3 A2**
Mason Street	**5 B2**
Masonic Avenue	**3 C4**
continues	**9 C1**
Mauldin Street	**2 F2**
Mayfair Drive	**3 B4**
McAllister Street	**3 C5**
continues	**9 A1**
McArthur Avenue	**4 E1**
McCoppin Street	**10 F1**
McDowell Avenue	**2 F3**
McKinley Square	**11 B4**
McLaren Avenue	**2 D5**
Meacham Place	**5 A5**
Mendosa Avenue	**9 A4**
Merced Avenue	**9 A5**

Merchant Road	**2 E2**
Merchant Street	**5 C3**
Merchant's Exchange	**5 C4**
Mersey Street	**10 E4**
Mesa Avenue	**9 A4**
Mesa Street	**3 B2**
Metson Lake	**8 D2**
Metson Road	**7 C3**
Midcrest Way	**9 B5**
Middle Drive East	**9 A1**
Middle Drive West	**7 C3**
Middle Street	**4 D4**
Midtown Terrace Recreation Center	**9 B4**
Midway Street	**5 B1**
Miley Street	**3 C3**
Miller Road	**2 E2**
Minna Street	**5 C5**
continues	**10 F1**
continues	**11 A1**
Minnesota Street	**11 C5**
Mint Street	**5 C5**
continues	**11 A1**
Mirabel Avenue	**10 F5**
Mission Cultural Center	**10 F4**
Mission Dolores	**10 E2**
Mission Playground	**10 F3**
Mission Rock Street	**11 D2**
Mission Street	**5 C5**
Mission Street	**10 F1**
Mission Street	**11 A1**
Mississippi Street	**11 C3**
Missouri Street	**11 C3**
Mistral Street	**11 A4**
Monroe Street	**5 C4**
Montalvo Avenue	**9 A5**
Montclair Terrace	**4 F2**
Montclair Terrace	**5 A2**
Montezuma Street	**10 F5**
Montgomery Street	**3 A2**
Montgomery Street	**5 C2**
Montgomery Street Station	**5 C4**
Moraga Street	**7 B4**
Morage Avenue	**3 A2**
Morrell Street	**4 F3**
continues	**5 A3**
Morris Road	**2 F3**
Morton Street	**3 B3**
Moscone Convention Center	**6 D5**
continues	**11 B1**
Moss Street	**11 A1**
Moulton Street	**4 D2**
Mount Lane	**8 F4**
Mount Sutro	**9 A3**
Mountain Lake	**2 F4**
Mountain Lake Park	**2 F5**
Mountain Spring Avenue	**9 B3**
Mountview Court	**9 B5**
Mulford Alley	**5 B4**
Municipal Pier	**4 E1**
Museum of Modern Art	**6 D5**
Museum Way	**10 D2**
Myrtle Street	**4 F4**
continues	**5 A5**

N

NAMES Project, The	**10 D2**
Natoma Street	**10 F1**
continues	**11 A1**
Nauman Road	**3 A3**
Neiman Marcus	**5 C5**
Nellie Street	**10 E4**
Newburg Street	**10 D5**
Newell Street	**5 B2**
Nido Avenue	**3 C5**
Nineteenth Avenue	**2 E5**
continues	**8 E1**
Nineteenth Street	**9 C3**
continues	**11 A4**
Ninth Avenue	**2 F5**
continues	**8 F1**
continues	**9 A4**
Ninth Street	**11 A2**
Noe Street	**10 D2**
Norfolk Street	**11 A2**
Noriega Street	**7 B4**
North Beach Museum	**5 B3**
North Beach Playground	**5 B2**
North Lake Road	**7 B2**
North Point Street	**3 C2**
North Point Street	**5 A2**
Northview Court	**4 F1**
Number One Market Street	**6 D3**

O

O'Reilly Avenue	**3 B2**
O'Shaughnessy Boulevard	**9 B5**
O'Farrell Street	**3 C5**
O'Farrell Street	**5 A5**
Oak Park Drive	**9 A4**
Oak Street	**9 B1**
Oakwood Street	**10 E3**
Ocean Beach	**7 A2**
Octagon House	**4 E2**
Octavia Street	**4 E2**
Old Mason Street	**3 A2**
Old Saint Mary's Church	**5 C4**
Old United States Mint	**5 C5**
continues	**11 B1**
Olive Street	**4 F4**
continues	**5 A5**
Olympia Way	**9 B4**
Ora Way	**10 D5**
Orange Alley	**10 F4**
Orange Street	**10 F4**
Ord Court	**9 C2**
Ord Street	**9 C2**
Ortega Street	**7 B5**
Osage Alley	**10 F4**
Osage Street	**10 F4**
Osgood Place	**5 C3**
Otis Street	**10 F1**
Overlook Drive	**8 D2**
Owens Street	**11 C2**

P

Pacheco Street	**7 B5**
continues	**9 A4**
Pachelo Street	**9 A5**
Pacific Avenue	**3 C3**
continues	**5 A3**
Pacific Coast Stock Exchange	**5 C4**
Pacific Heritage Museum	**5 C3**
Pacific Telephone Building	**6 D5**
Pacific Union Club	**5 B4**
Page Street	**9 B1**
Palace Drive	**3 C2**
Palace of Fine Arts and the Exploratorium	**3 C2**
Pali Road	**11 B5**
Palm Avenue	**3 B4**
Palo Alto Avenue	**9 B3**
Panhandle	**9 C1**
Panorama Drive	**9 B4**
Pardee Alley	**5 B2**
Park Boulevard	**2 F3**
Park Hill Avenue	**10 D2**
Park Presidio Boulevard	**2 F5**
continues	**8 F1**
Park Presidio By Pass	**8 E2**
Parker Avenue	**3 B4**
Parkridge Drive	**9 C4**
Parnassus Avenue	**9 B2**
Parsons Street	**9 B1**
Patten Road	**3 A2**
Pearce Street	**2 F2**
Pearl Street	**10 E1**
Pelton Alley	**5 C3**
Pena Street	**3 B2**
Pennington Street	**3 A2**
Pennsylvania Avenue	**11 C4**
Perego Terrace	**9 C4**
Perine Place	**4 D4**
Pershing Drive	**2 E4**
Peter York Street	**4 E4**
Pfeiffer Street	**5 B2**
Piedmont Street	**9 C2**
Pier Fifteen	**6 D2**
Pier Five	**6 D3**
Pier Forty-five	**4 F1**
continues	**5 A1**
Pier Forty-one	**5 B1**
Pier Forty-seven	**4 F1**
continues	**5 A1**
Pier Forty-three	**5 B1**
Pier Nine	**6 D2**
Pier Nineteen	**6 D2**
Pier One	**6 D3**
Pier Seven	**6 D2**
Pier Seventeen	**6 D2**
Pier Thirty	**6 F5**
Pier Thirty-eight	**6 F5**
Pier Thirty-five	**5 C1**
Pier Thirty-four	**6 F5**
Pier Thirty-nine	**5 B1**
Pier Thirty-one	**5 C1**
Pier Thirty-six	**6 E5**
Pier Thirty-three	**5 C1**
Pier Thirty-two	**6 F5**
Pier Three	**6 D3**
Pier Twenty-eight	**6 F4**
Pier Twenty-four	**6 E4**
Pier Twenty-nine	**5 C1**
Pier Twenty-seven	**6 D2**
Pier Twenty-six	**6 F4**
Pier Twenty-three	**6 D2**
Pier Two	**6 E3**
Pierce Street	**4 D2**
Pierce Street	**10 D1**
Pine Street	**3 C4**
continues	**5 A4**
Pino Alley	**7 C3**
Piper Loop	**3 A3**
Pixley Street	**4 D2**
Pleasant Street	**5 B4**
Plum Street	**10 F1**
Point Lobos Avenue	**7 A1**
Polk Street	**4 F2**
continues	**5 A3**
Polo Fields	**7 C2**
Pond Street	**10 D2**
Pope Street	**2 E3**
Poplar Street	**10 F4**
Portola Drive	**9 B5**
Portola Street	**3 B3**
Post Street	**3 C4**
continues	**5 A5**
Potomac Street	**10 D1**

Potrero Del Sok Park 11 B5
Potrero Hill Playground 11 C4
Potrero Avenue 11 A3
Powell Street 5 B1
Powell Street Cable Car Turntable 5 B5
Powell Street Station 5 C5
Powers Avenue 10 F5
Powhatten Avenue 10 F5
Prado Street 3 C1
Pratt Place 5 B4
Precita Avenue 10 F5
Prescott Court 5 C3
Presidio Army Golf Course 2 F4
continues 3 A3
Presidio Avenue 3 C3
Presidio Boulevard 3 B2
Presidio Museum 3 B2
Presidio Officers' Club 3 A2
Presidio Terrace 3 A4
Priest Street 5 B4
Prospect Avenue 10 F5
Prosper Street 10 D2

Q

Quane Street 10 E3
Quarry Road 3 B3
Queen Wilhelmina's Tulip Gardens 7 A2
Quintara Street 7 B5

R

Racoon Drive 9 C3
Radio Terrace 8 F5
Ralston Avenue 2 E2
Ramona Street 10 E2
Rausch Street 11 A1
Rawles Street 3 C3
Raycliff Terrace 3 C3
Recreation Grounds 9 A2
Red Rock Way 9 C5
Redwood Street 4 F5
Reed Street 4 F3
continues 5 A4
Reservoir 9 B3
Reservoir 9 B5
Reservoir Street 10 E2
Retiro Way 4 D2
Rhone Island Street 11 B2
Richard Spreckels Mansion 9 C2
Richardson Avenue 3 C2
Richmond Playground 2 E5
Rico Way 4 D1
Riley Avenue 3 A2
Rincon Center 6 E4
Rincon Street 6 E5
Ringold Street 11 A2
Ripley's Believe It Or Not Museum 4 F1
continues 5 A1
Ritch Street 11 C1
Rivera Street 7 C5
Rivoli Street 9 B2
Roach Street 5 B2
Rochambeau Playground 2 D5
Rockaway Avenue 9 A5
Rockdale Drive 9 B5
Rockridge Drive 8 F5
Rod Road 2 F3
Rodgers Street 11 A2
Rodriguez Street 3 B3
Romain Street 9 C3
Rondel Place 10 F2
Roosevelt Way 9 C2
Rose Street 10 E1
Roselyn Terrace 3 C5
Rossi Avenue 3 B5
Ruckman Avenue 2 F3
Ruger Street 3 C3
Russ Street 11 A1
Russian Hill Park 4 F2
continues 5 A2

S

Sacramento Street 3 B4
continues 5 A4
Safira Lane 10 D5
Saint George Alley 5 C4
Saint Germain Avenue 9 B3
Saint Ignatius Church 9 B1
Saint Joseph's Avenue 3 C5
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Acknowledgments

Dorling Kindersley would like to thank the many people whose help and assistance contributed to the preparation of this book.

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Design and Editorial
Pardoe Blacker Publishing Limited
MANAGING EDITOR Alan Ross
MANAGING ART EDITOR Simon Blacker
PROJECT SECRETARY Cindy Edler

Dorling Kindersley Limited
MANAGING EDITORS Douglas Amrine, Carolyn Ryden
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PRODUCTION Hilary Stephens
MAPS Lovell Johns Ltd., Oxford UK
Street Finder Maps based upon digital data, adapted with permission from original survey by ETAK INC 1984–1994.

Michael Blacker, Dawn Brend, Laaren Brown, Maxine Cass, Aaron Chamberlin, Kelly Chamberlin, Peter Cieply, Sherry Collins, Lisa M. Cope, Melissa Corrigan, Emer FitzGerald, Jo Gardner, Emily Green, Fay Franklin, Sally Hibbard, Paul Hines, Katie Hogg, Rose Hudson, Claire Jones, Heather Jones, Esther Labi, Maite Lantaron, Nicola Malone, Joanne Miller, Karen Misuraca, Sonal Modha, Adam Moore, Mary Ormandy, Catherine Palmi, Marianne Petrou, Mani Ramaswamy, Steve Rowling, Dan Rubin, Sands Publishing Solutions, Mary Sutherland, Conrad van Dyk, Ros Walford, Amy Westerwelt, Hugo Wilkinson.

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Index
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Special Assistance
Marcia Eymann and Abby Wasserman at The Oakland Museum of California, Stacia Fink at the Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage, Richard Fishman, Debbie Freedon at the Legion of Honor, Michael Lampen at Grace Cathedral, Dan Mohn, Chief Engineer of Golden Gate Bridge, Dr. John R. Nudds at Manchester University Museum, Richard Ogar at Bancroft Library, Peppers, Riggio Café, Royal Thai Restaurant, Scott Sack at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Sandra Farish Sloan and Jennifer Small at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Stella Pastry and Cafe, Stephen Marcos Landscapes, Dawn Stranne at the San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau, The Little Cafe, Carl Wilmington.

Research Assistance
Christine Bartholomew, Jennifer Bermon, Cathy Elliott, Kirsten Whatley, Jon Williams, Michael Wrenn.

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Dorling Kindersley would like to thank the following for their kind permission to photograph at their establishments:

Asian Art Museum, Cable Car Barn Museum, California Academy of Sciences, Cha Cha Cha, Chinese Historical Society, City Hall, Coit Tower, Columbarium, Crocker Galleria, Ernie's, The Exploratorium, Fort Mason Center, Fortune Cookie Factory, Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage (Haas-Lilienthal House), Golden Gate National Recreation Area (Alcatraz), Gump's, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Kong Chow Temple, Kuleto's, MH de Young Memorial Museum, Mission Dolores, Nordstrom, The Oakland Museum of California, Presidio Museum, Rincon Annexe, Saints Peter and Paul Church, San Francisco History Room, San Francisco Main Library, San Francisco National Historical Park, Sheraton Palace Hotel, Sherman House, St. Mary's Cathedral, Temple Emanu-El, Tosca, USS *Pampanito*, Veteran's Building, Wells Fargo History Room.

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